

# **Appeal for Intervention in the Conduct of the GPCO Steering Committee**



By:

The Caucus to Restore Green Values to the Green Party of Colorado

June 13, 2017

## List of Complaints

The members of the Caucus to Restore Green Values to the Green Party of Colorado and other co-signers request intervention by the National Committee of the Green Party of the United States (GPUS) to remedy situations that have arisen as a result of actions by Andrea Mérida Cuéllar, a current co-chair of the Green Party of Colorado (GPCO).

Ms. Merida has

- approved of a **conspiracy to rig the election** of officers including Ms. Merida at the upcoming GPCO state meeting, consisting of an elaborate scheme to pack the GPCO annual meeting with temporary Greens combined with a change in bylaws to require 90 day pre-registration with only 2 weeks for others to recruit candidates; in violation of social values *honesty, fair play*
- **advocated violence** as a method of dealing with opposing viewpoints; this is a violation of the Green Party key value of “*Non-Violence*”
- appointed herself to **fill every GPCO position** that has recently fallen vacant while ignoring volunteers for those positions; in violation of KV *decentralization* which calls for restructuring of social, political and economic institutions away from a system controlled by and mostly benefiting the powerful few; in violation of KV *grassroots democracy* which call on us to- improve public participation in every aspect of government and, expand the process of participatory democracy; in violation of Colorado Policies and Guidelines 3.7
- **removed her co-chair** under questionable circumstances using false pretenses; in violation of Green Party of Colorado Bylaw 5.9
- **violated state bylaws**, state council procedures, and guidelines; in violation of social values *ethics, rule of law*
- delayed, edited, and **obstructed proposals** that were contrary to her wishes; in violation of KV *grassroots democracy* which calls on us to- improve public participation in every aspect of government and, expand the process of participatory democracy; in violation of KV *decentralization* which calls for restructuring of social, political and economic institutions away from a system controlled by and mostly benefiting the powerful few; in violation of Colorado Policies and Guideline 3.5.3; in violation of social values *fair play, no abuse of power*
- **antagonized Green candidates** running for state and federal offices; in violation of the political goal of *building the party*
- **contributed to a deep schism** within the GPCO; in violation of the political goal of *building the party*
- failed to support and actively rejected and **opposed admission of supporters of Senator Bernie Sanders** who were moving or attempting to move to the Green Party; in violation of KV *personal and global responsibility which calls for us to join with people and organizations around the world to foster peace, economic*



justice, and the health of the planet; in violation of KV *grassroots democracy* which calls for us to- improve public participation in every aspect of government, and expand the process of participatory democracy

- made irresponsible, unsupportable **accusations of sexism, racism, and white supremacy** within the GPCO; this is a violation of the Green Party key values of *Social Justice and Equal Opportunity*; and *Feminism and Gender Equity* which calls for –cooperative ways of interacting; in violation of KV *respect for diversity* which calls for development of respectful relationships
- made **unorthodox interpretations of rules** to suppress dissent and to benefit her own agenda; in violation of social values *honesty, fair play, no abuse of power*
- **ghostwritten proposals** that were later presented as grassroots proposals made by local chapters; in violation of KV *decentralization* which says- decision-making should, as much as possible, remain at the individual and local level
- **posted comments** suggesting that people of color and the working class are the **only true believers** in progressive politics; this is a violation of the Green Party key value of *Grassroots Democracy*; in violation of KV *social justice and equal opportunity* which call on us to- consciously confront in ourselves, our organizations, and society at large, any discrimination by race, class, gender, sexual orientation, age
- elevated values of **social justice and feminism** above other party values in the bylaws of two local chapters and **twisted** them into “anti-racism” and “anti-white (male) supremacy”; this is a violation of the Green Party key values of *Grassroots Democracy*, and *Feminism and Gender Equity* which says- “We recognize that the processes for determining our decisions and actions are just as important as achieving the outcomes we want”, and “Social Justice and Equal Opportunity”
- **dismissed the March for Science** on Earth Day 2017 as not worth the trouble of participating; this is a violation of the Green Party key values of *Grassroots Democracy* and *Ecological Wisdom*; *personal and global responsibility*; *future focus and sustainability*; what does the “Green” in Green Party stand for if not for ecology and environmentalism?

## Case For Intervention

Andrea Merida was elected co-chair of the Green Party of Colorado (GPCO) at the 2015 state meeting in late August, and she is a national co-chair on the GPUS Steering Committee. Since being elected co-chair of the GPCO she has formed four new local chapters -- Adams County, Platte Valley, Longmont, and Mesa County. Interestingly and disturbingly these chapters have demonstrated that they consistently, and thus far without exception, support any and all of Ms. Merida's agenda and state council proposals. This can also be said of the Denver chapter of which she was co-chair for several years, and she has also chased away opposition and nurtured allies in other locals, namely Poudre Valley (which she reactivated via a process forbidden under the state bylaws, (*see Supplemental Evidence pg. 32*) and Pikes Peak, which also typically vote with her with few exceptions. On the surface this might seem to be commendable, but in reality she has created a faction of locals that are helping her to achieve an agenda that is contrary to Green values and is operating outside of the guidelines of the bylaws and state council process of the GPCO.

Many members of Ms. Merida's faction have been hostile and combative to the other longer-established locals and their members. After an extremely divisive state council proposal to remove GPCO co-chair Bill Bartlett, initiated by members of her "faction" and perhaps by Andrea herself, members of Ms. Merida's faction have routinely accused the members of these other locals of being sexist, racist, and white supremacist as a weapon against anyone who disagrees with Ms. Merida's agenda. This has served to create deep division in the GPCO and has created two opposing factions that are at odds on virtually every issue. Ms. Merida has systematically violated state council procedure and state bylaws to neutralize dissent and has effectively prevented the long-established chapters from having any meaningful participation in state council process. As her agenda becomes more apparent, it is concerning that it might eventually include removing local chapters and members that represent a challenge to her take-over and dominance of the GPCO.

### **Ms. Merida rejected supporters of Bernie Sanders**

Ms. Merida has demonstrated repeatedly that part of her agenda is to reject former Bernie Sanders supporters. Though she has claimed (correctly) that the new locals she has fostered contain several former Berners, many have contacted GPCO members to complain that when they approached Ms. Merida about getting involved with the Green Party they were met inexplicably with hostility. [REDACTED], a former Bernie Sanders supporter who was trying to become active locally in the Jill Stein campaign, wrote an open letter to Colorado Greens regarding this (*see Evidence pg. 140*). She complained of receiving no support or campaign materials from the GPCO and she was shocked by the response she received from Ms. Merida. Here is a quote from her letter.

*"I am very concerned because the Co-Chair of the Green Party, Andrea Mérida Cuéllar has been posting extremely insulting and inflammatory rhetoric regarding Bernie supporters who chose to move to the Green Party. When my daughter*

*asked for clarification, Andrea and her friends flamed her. Every dissenting opinion has been shot down because Andrea deletes them. She and her friends have spent over 30 hours attacking the integrity and dedication of Bernie supporters."*

Her letter also included a quote from Ms. Merida.

*"On Sept. 9, 2016 at 5:53, Andrea Mérida Cuéllar wrote:  
**I am absolutely convinced that for the most part, the former Sanders supporter is not our target for recruitment into the Green Party.** I just tabled at a "progressive" event in Albuquerque for the Green Party of New Mexico, and the people who were still waffling over whether to be a Green were NOT the two groups of working-class Latinas who are fighting neoliberal assaults on the community, with whom I had good, honest conversations.*

*"I qualify this by saying there is a difference between voting for Jill and becoming a registered Green Party member (where allowed). There are plenty of good people of good conscience who will be voting for Jill but at the end of the day are going to still "change the Democratic Party from within." All power to them, seriously.*

*"Our party, however, must be built with the working class, for whom the stakes are higher and the damage from capitalism is imminent. It must be from the frontline communities who are the first to suffer environmental racism, police brutality, poverty and homelessness. For others, being a Green is an academic exercise. For the rest of us, it's life or death.*

*"Let's be clear about the difference between simply voting for Jill and becoming a Green. There is a difference."*

There were many other cases of former Berners being ostracized by Ms. Merida including a former DNC Bernie delegate, woman from Colorado who attended a Greater Boulder Green Party meeting to discuss the issue. The August 3, 2016, Adams-Jeffco Greens meeting was swamped with about 35 Bernie supporters who were quite upset that the "GPCO" had been turning them away and making them feel unwelcome. We did not know at that time who was behind the anti-Bernie pushback, and we got quite an earful during and after the meeting. This when many in the GPCO, including Adams-Jeffco Greens Co-Chair Michael Haughey (against vehement opposition from Co-Chair Larry Dunn, a recently installed Merida ally), were desperately looking for avenues to recruit former Bernie Sanders supporters. Some of her Facebook posts on the subject are on Evidence pgs. 142, 143, 144.

An example of people being chased away from the GPCO by Andrea is contained in this Facebook post (Evidence pg. 54):

*“Evan R. Herzoff: That co-chair you mentioned, and a couple of that co-chair's cohorts, are the only reason I've been so reluctant to support the Green Party in recent years.”*

**Ms. Merida antagonized Green candidates and colleagues on the state council**

But Ms. Merida's hostility was not only directed towards former Bernie Sanders supporters. She has also demonstrated a propensity to attack GPCO council members who disagree with her positions. Many members of the GPCO have left the party due to negative interactions with her. One person wrote an open letter to the GPCO stating (see Evidence pg. 145),

*“I am not a sexist, I don't appreciate being labelled as a sexist by anyone because I am loud and assertive to anyone that implies that I am lazy or mislabels me. My co-chair doesn't have a job that's why she can spend more time than me, but to say I do nothing, while working two jobs and still spending what free time I can to the party's agenda that is never even discussed at our local meetings is not worth my time. I am done with this party until it grows up and uses science and knowledge for the future forward. So good luck but whoever has control, delete all my information and my posts because for now I am not going to be involved until drastic changes are made at every level and the focus turns back to the PLANET first.”*

Arn Menconi, GPCO candidate for U.S. Senate in 2016, posted on Facebook that after the election he would be making a “#GreenExit” (see Evidence pg. 50) due to lack of support from the party and hostility from Ms. Merida. Mr. Menconi posted to his Facebook page on October 2, 2016, (typos in the original)

*“The Green Party in Colorado has devolved into a power struggle for nothing while the issues for Coloradans to increase minimum wage, universal healthcare, antifracking measures and candidates like Robert Lee Worthey, Jenice JJ Dove and myself go undressed. I've seen this happen before in politics and we've seen it with Debbie Wasserman Schultz and Hillary. The Colorado Green Party's Co-chair will come after me next through other people who have no clue what is happening.”*

**Ms. Merida accused her co-chair of threatening assault, triggering a recall**

On September 22, 2016, Secretary Sean Friend started agreement seeking on Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-chair Vacancy at the height of the 2016 election season. It is not clear how Mr. Friend obtained access on the GPCO Forum to post the proposal – an action that should be done only by the Council Facilitator. On September 27, 2016, Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-chair Vacancy (see Evidence pg. 3) was reposted on the GPCO forum by Facilitator Brittany Hoover. The title of the proposal suggested that the position had already been vacated, but the proposal called for the GPCO state council to remove Bill Bartlett from his position as co-chair of the GPCO due to claims of racism and sexism based on discussions on social media. Ms. Merida has pointed out

that neither she nor the Denver Greens sponsored the proposal, but evidence suggesting her collusion in this effort would later emerge. There were also claims that Mr. Bartlett was not fulfilling his obligations to his position of co-chair; however many council members disagreed with this assessment. This recall was conducted without due process, without opportunity for Mr. Bartlett to defend himself against these serious accusations prior to initiation of the recall proposal, and without first making a finding of being "in contempt of the goals of the Green Party of Colorado" as required by the GPCO bylaws (see Evidence pg. 214). The charges of sexism and racism were based on Facebook discussions about reverse racism and the issue of whether bigotry towards white people on the part of minority groups could be called racism, and another discussion concerning similar issues regarding whether derogatory remarks towards men could be regarded as sexist on the part of women. While these subjects are complicated and controversial, these philosophical discussions were conducted completely outside of the realm of Green Party business or policy. Some of the evidence presented against Mr. Bartlett was from private Facebook conversations.

The most serious charge presented against Mr. Bartlett was an alleged threat of physical violence against Ms. Merida at the People's Fair in Denver which the Denver Greens tabled. The incident allegedly took place after the event was over while packing up. The only alleged witnesses were Ms. Merida and her domestic partner and Denver Green Jason Justice. Mr. Bartlett has adamantly and repeatedly denied the accusation of physically threatening Ms. Merida and such an action is polar opposite to his character as most of his colleagues would attest to.

The real reason for attempting to recall Mr. Bartlett was his introduction of Proposal 003-16: Endorsement of Amendment 69 ColoradoCare on August 31, 2016, but this was mentioned only briefly in the recall proposal. Ms. Merida, herself, commented on this during voting on Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions on October 21, 2016, writing, "I want to call out the elephant in the room, and that's the distress over my personal opinion, which I have shared with many of you, about Amendment 69." (See Evidence pg. 41) Ms. Merida's personal opinions, expressed at the June 2015 Denver chapter meeting and published in the Denver chapter's July 2015 newsletter, were clearly ill-informed and factually wrong. For two years Ms. Merida has covered up her misstatements at the June 2015 meeting and refused to publish a correction in the Denver newsletter. (See Evidence pg. 60, Elephant in the Room #1: ColoradoCare)

What followed was an extremely divisive exchange on the forum (see Evidence pg. 3) and complete distraction from the campaigns of the Green Party candidates running for office at that time (just weeks before the 2016 national election). Several state council members expressed their view in proposal discussion that a special meeting or review of the charges against Mr. Bartlett be convened or that other less severe remedies be employed - all of which were ignored. Even though the votes were at that time insufficient to achieve the 75% needed to remove him from office, Mr. Bartlett stepped down on October 2 in an attempt to stop the infighting, saying, "Let my walking away be



a rallying cry to this council and our Colorado Greens that want to remain focused on issues and candidates rather than murmurs and accusations.”

### **Allegations of racism and sexism became rampant**

After Mr. Bartlett stepped down as co-chair, the Greater Boulder chapter and the Jefferson County Green Party chapter of the GPCO submitted Proposal 007-16 calling for the replacement of both co-chairs with neutral, interim leadership due to the deep division Proposal 005-16 had created in the party. Up to this point, charges of racism and sexism had been leveled against Mr. Bartlett, but during proposal discussion on Proposal 007-16 charges of racism, sexism, and white supremacy were expressed against all of the sponsors of the proposal and anyone who supported it, further deepening the schism between the now obvious factions of the GPCO. It also created a precedent in which the race and sexism cards would be used against anyone who disagreed with Ms. Merida as a tool to stifle dissent. The following are excerpts of posts on Proposal 007-16 (see Evidence pg. 26):

Joseph Scardetta - Platte Valley chapter

*“As a Xicano, I feel that race is the primary motivation for this proposal.”*

Jason Justice - Denver chapter

*“This proposal has no merit, no integrity, no truth, not compliant the bylaws or procedure, and is fulfilling a racist and sexist agenda that these so-called white liberals are upholding by failing to hold accountable those who show these behaviors. Whether or not you hold these ideals in your hearts, the outcome is the same.”*

Annie Martinez - Arapahoe County chapter

*“As a Latinx I find this very disheartening... seeing Andrea as a beacon of what a strong brown woman in leadership could be has been inspiring...till having to witness the utter BS that she is handed over and over again by quite frankly a bunch of whiney white people...”*

Joseph Scardetta - Platte Valley chapter

*“Andrea's public statements are in line with the 10 Key Values, and are intended to feed the debate among members of our own party. There is nothing contained within them that degrades the wealthy, white-collar, white-skinned, cisgender, heterosexual men and women who are airing concerns about having their privilege checked by this courageous and wise Latina.”*

Angela Humphrey - Denver chapter

*“This proposal seems to be a case of the white privileged members of this party to take their frustration out on Andrea for the recall and resignation of Bill Bartlett, whose recall I fully supported.”*

Art Goodtimes – San Miguel chapter (see Evidence pg. 46)

*“this brouhaha seems very confusing for chapters far from the front range.”*

*instead of a forum for voting, this thread appears to be a forum for presenting opposing sides of a rift in the party. and the accusations of racism against those who are in favor of the proposal seems to make it a losing proposition however one votes. so, san miguel greens abstain on this proposal for now."*

**Ms. Merida appointed herself to fill positions that fell open, ignored volunteers**

After Mr. Bartlett's resignation, Ms. Merida would act as sole co-chair for a month and a half. She immediately began a process of power grabbing. Brittany Hoover posted on the GPCO forum on November 18, 2016, that she was resigning from her position as state council facilitator, saying,

*"the responsibility of mediating the recent divide within the party has become too much."*

On November 19, Harry Hempy from the Greater Boulder Green Party volunteered to fill this position. Ms. Merida subsequently posted that she would assume the duties of interim council facilitator. She did not consult the council or consider Mr. Hempy as a volunteer, a clear violation of the GPCO bylaws 5.8 ([Evidence Group J](#)) and Procedures and Guidelines 3.7 ([Evidence Group K](#)). Her first action as facilitator was to remove the post in which she assumed these duties from the forum. There is currently no record of this maneuver other than the lack of a person holding the position of facilitator and all subsequent state council activity being moderated and inappropriately edited and controlled by Ms. Merida. By this time she had also taken over from Mr. Bartlett the unofficial job of GPCO forum moderator and consequently she totally controlled all state council activity and all communication related to council activity. On November 15, 2016, Proposal 008-16 Election of Interim Co-chair was posted on the forum. Three candidates had previously been nominated: Dave Bell, former chair of the Poudre Valley chapter, Arn Menconi, who had run as a GPCO U.S. Senate candidate in the recent general election, and Robert Lee Worthey, who had also run for office for U.S. Congress, Colorado District 6. Mr. Bell has been a staunch ally of Ms. Merida in the past and was the strongest proponent for the removal of Mr. Bartlett as state co-chair. Mr. Bell was elected with full support from the new faction of the GPCO and assumed state co-chair duties on November 24.

On October 4th, 2016, GPCO secretary, Sean Friend posted a topic on the GPCO forum private discussion board "Call for Treasurer Nominations" ([see Evidence pg. 125](#)) after the resignation of the previous state treasurer, Tom Hall. On the same day Mr. Worthey posted on the board, "Should we place nominations here?" There was a conspicuous lack of response to his post and subsequent lack of discussion also interrupted by the elections and Thanksgiving holiday. On December 1, Judy Harrington posted a request to revive the nomination process publicly on the forum in an effort to identify possible candidates for the office. Also on December 1, Ms. Merida posted, "Once Dave Bell gets back from vacation, he and I will discuss this further. It could very well be that we both assume the duties until officer elections happen in August or so." There was no challenge or further discussion of this blatant and authoritarian violation of GPCO bylaws. The GPCO coup d'état was now complete.

**Ms. Merida, already a co-chair of the GPCO, now had assumed or appointed herself to the following additional positions in the Green Party of Colorado:**

GPCO Treasurer  
GPCO Forum Administrator  
GPCO Council Facilitator  
GPCO Forum Moderator  
GPCO Website owner/editor/webmaster  
GPCO Facebook administrator  
GPCO Twitter administrator

**Ms. Merida blocked an opponent's access to the state forum**

Ms. Merida then began a process of neutralizing her opposition in the GPCO through a process of stifling council proposals, editing and removing posts on the forum, and in an authoritarian manner randomly reinterpreting GPCO bylaws in order to declare challenges to her oversight of council process as being "out of order." One example of Ms. Merida's abuse of her newly acquired power of the GPCO was directed at Mr. Hempy, who has been at odds with Ms. Merida on several issues and on state council process. Mr. Hempy is currently co-chair of the Greater Boulder Green Party and was the GPCO candidate for governor of Colorado in 2014. On October 30, 2016, he was unable to access the ColoradoGreenParty.org website. On November 1 he phoned the registered tech support number for ColoradoGreenParty.org and was told the Green Party of Colorado had revoked his right to participate on ColoradoGreenParty.org because he habitually trolled the website. He contested this characterization and on November 3 ([see Evidence pg. 65](#)) he submitted a state council proposal to initiate due process in regards to his access to the GPCO website. Ms. Merida subsequently reinstated his access to Coloradogreenparty.org and there was neither further discussion nor explanation of why he had been blocked from access to the website until November 23 when Mr. Hempy posted again ([see Evidence pg. 67](#)). As noted by Mr. Hempy, "My access was revoked by the Administrator of the GPCO Website ColoradoGreenParty.org. According to the GPCO Forum member list and Whois.com the administrator of record is Andrea Merida. If it was not Andrea, that site has been hacked."

**Ms. Merida obstructed proposals and issued inconsistent requirements for posting them**

Ms. Merida posted that the state annual meeting would be held in the late summer of 2017 because her term as co-chair, described as being a two-year term, entitled her to 24 months in office before new elections could be held. (Her term of office would thus end on 29 August 2017.) Her unilateral indication of an approximate date was a violation of the bylaw (4.1) that the council sets the date of the annual meeting. In December, 2016, Mr. Hempy posted a poll asking about dates and locations for holding the state annual meeting in the spring of 2017 to get an earlier start on recruiting and nominating candidates for the 2018 election cycle. The original proposal ([see Evidence pg. 67](#)) was for a state meeting between Feb 1 and March 26, 2017 with two towns in the mountains as the options for location.

After receiving admittedly limited feedback, Mr. Hempy then wrote a proposal for a May date in Grand Junction, the Mesa County chapter's location, and on February 9 he attempted to get it posted in the agreement seeking folder by the facilitator, Ms. Merida. There were five co-sponsors, two from the Greater Boulder chapter, one from the Jefferson County chapter, one from the Pikes Peak chapter, and Ms. Harrington, then co-chair of the Poudre Valley chapter. Ms. Merida did not post the proposal, but did post an announcement that same day that the annual meeting would be held in July or August. Mr. Bell, formerly the sole chair of the Poudre Valley chapter and now a state co-chair, e-mailed Ms. Harrington that day to ask if the proposal text was accurate in listing her as a co-sponsor. Although the head of the Mesa County chapter had earlier agreed by e-mail to Mr. Hempy's suggestion that Mesa County host the meeting, Ms. Merida claimed that Mesa County did not support Mr. Hempy's proposal, and the head of the Mesa County chapter later sent another e-mail message saying that he would not support the May date unless Ms. Merida was in agreement with it.

Also on February 9, 2017 Ms. Merida then claimed that the proposal needed to be sponsored by three council members from the same chapter including one officers, as described in Guideline 3.5.3. Andrea's post declared the proposal out of order (see Evidence pg. 112):

*"The proposal is out of order, and as I have instructed the presenters of the proposal, you can resubmit once you meet that threshold."*

She objected several days later when the number of co-sponsors increased to twelve, and complained that the proposal did not address satisfactorily the issue of her two-year term. On February 25, Mr. Hempy offered a proposal to address the term length (see Evidence pg. 113). His proposal would add language to the state bylaws specifying that terms end on the date of the state meeting. Mr. Hempy presented extensive evidence that co-chair terms had always expired on the date of the state meeting in the year their term expired rather than lasting a full two years. On March 2, Ms. Merida finally replied, again complaining that the proposal should be sponsored only by members of a single local chapter (despite many examples to the contrary in the GPCO forum) and adding the restriction (found nowhere in the bylaws or guidelines) that the proposal had to be approved at a chapter meeting of the three chapter members who were sponsoring it. On March 12, 2017, Ms. Merida, interim state council facilitator, finally posted Proposal 002-17-Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two-Year Term of Office authored by Mr. Hempy (see Evidence pg. 73), after the sponsor list had been adjusted and the Greater Boulder chapter had passed a resolution to sponsor it. Ms. Merida deleted some crucial content from the proposal before posting it. This is the deleted paragraph:

*"4. Background:*

*Since the co-chair wars in October 2016 Co-chair Andrea Merida has claimed she is entitled to 24 months in office. Andrea is using her position as council facilitator to block all proposals to have the 2017 annual meeting before she gets*

*her full 24 months in. So now, four months after the 2016 election, GPCO Council is unable to set a date for the meeting because we have not agreed on when our officers' terms expire. All other political parties will have held their annual state meeting by the end of March."*

When Mr. Hempy protested the deletion, Ms. Merida said it was deleted on the grounds that it was hyperbole (see Evidence pg. 53). There was also a dispute concerning the wording of the bylaw 5.7 which had not been properly updated after a bylaws change in 2015 (see Evidence pg. 132). Ms. Merida updated the bylaws while voting was in progress, but refused to allow changes to the proposal that would bring it into conformance with the updated version of the bylaws, thus adding an additional error to the wording of the proposal. Within minutes of being posted, the proposal was blocked and sent to voting by an ally of Ms. Merida's in the Adams County Greens, Larry Dunn, thus cutting off useful discussion. In the voting process there was more confusion concerning the wording of the bylaws. Because of the deleted background of the proposal and the bylaws confusion, the voting process was stifled and a quorum was not achieved effectively killing the proposal. (See the full proposal at Evidence pg. 78).

As a minor bit of fallout from the controversy over people agreeing to co-sponsor Mr. Hempy's proposals, at a Poudre Valley chapter meeting Mr. Bell accused then-Poudre Valley co-chair Ms. Harrington of violating the chapter's bylaws by co-sponsoring the proposal, although no bylaw prohibiting her action existed at that time. Mr. Bell soon wrote one and pushed the chapter to pass it (see Supplemental Evidence pg. 2).

### **Ms. Merida dismissed the March for Science on Earth Day 2017 as not worth the trouble**

The GPCO was invited to participate in the April 22 March for Science (see Evidence pg. 166). On February 23, 2017, GPCO Co-Chair Andrea Merida asked for one or more Council members to volunteer to coordinate GPCO's activities in support of the March for Science (MFS) on Earth Day, April 22, 2017, in Denver. Harry Hempy, Scott Lupo, and Veronique Bellamy volunteered the next day, later joined by Shelia Canfield-Jones and Linda Templin. On March 1, 2017, Ms. Merida confirmed the work of this team and GPCO's commitment to the MFS, writing, "Well, get after it, folks, and let us know the details." The team worked with MFS Denver Outreach Coordinator Kevin Hennegan to make GPCO an official supporter of MFS and to create a Science and Policy table where each political party could station a representative. After consulting with all chapter co-chairs in Colorado, Mr. Hempy and Mr. Haughey were selected to represent the Green Party of Colorado. People from the Green Party, Democratic Party and the Republican Party participated. (Note: The Science and Policy table is referred to as the Meet Your Representative table in the attached documentation.)

Ms. Merida seemed supportive at first, but posted "Even though they invited us, I don't think we should bend over backward to participate in this" on April 4, 2017. Ms. Merida took a very negative position toward GPCO participation with some unintelligible comments about not being a "...candidate recruitment situation" and not being "the



*'droids we're looking for.'* (see *Evidence pg. 172*). Without consulting the GPCO MFS Coordination team, Ms. Merida wrote an antagonistic note to Mr. Hennegan calling the MFS a "Demfest" when she learned Greens would be sharing space with the other political parties. Ms. Merida tried to disassociate GPCO from the march by denying use of the GPCO banner in the march, refusing to advance funds for a fundraising project to sell GPCO-MFS tee-shirts, and refusing to post MFS announcements on the GPCO website or GPCO social media. The marchers had to use an old Boulder chapter banner instead. Ms. Merida's actions to kill GPCO's participation in the March for Science seem contrary to the party's green values and to the scientific bent of many of its members. Despite Ms. Merida's attempt to discourage members from participating, Mr. Hempy and other GPCO members represented the GPCO at the Science and Policy table. Two people who stopped by the table expressed an interest in running for office as Greens. This opportunity to promote the Green Party to activists in the scientific community would have been lost if Ms. Merida's attempt to withdraw from the MFS had succeeded. This is especially disturbing because the one cause that is foremost for the Green Party is environmentalism.

**Ms. Merida ghost-wrote proposals that were presented as chapter proposals**

On April 7, 2017, Proposal 003-17-Registration Requirements For Voting at State Meetings-was posted on the GPCO forum (see *Evidence pg. 86*). The proposal would change the GPCO bylaws to require that to vote at a state meeting an attendee would have to have been registered Green for 90 days prior to the upcoming meeting and 180 days prior for future meetings. Here are the misleading justification and goals contained in the proposal:

*"4. Background: Though never specified in the bylaws or Procedures and Guidelines, tradition has held that a person could register Green on site at the state meeting and be eligible to vote at the meeting that day. This proposal brings order to the situation and provides locals with windows of organizing opportunity to reach out to new registered Greens and conduct orientation as they are able.*

*"Additionally, given the passage of Proposition 108, even with the opt-out clause that parties can choose state assemblies as opposed to primaries for nominations, a lack of clarity around that new law could possibly draw unaffiliated voters to our state nomination conventions. We must ensure the integrity of our Green Party processes, and a minimum of 90 day registration (at first) and later 180 days registration after the 2017 GPCO state meeting, gives local parties a window to reach out to new voters and to provide orientation. The end result would be that our nominations and state party processes would more likely continue to be carried out according to Green values.*

*"5. Justification/Goals: To maintain the integrity of Green values in our party processes."*

This proposal, although presented in the forum as emanating from six local chapters, was written by Ms. Merida and Mr. Bell, and was sent to local chapters for them to pass resolutions sponsoring it, thus making it appear to be a grassroots idea and disguising the true authorship. It was first brought to the attention of the Poudre Valley chapter after 10 p.m. on March 14, with the suggestion that it should be passed at the chapter meeting on March 15. The purpose was described as “to safeguard our party from external takeover attempts and outside pressure by non-Greens.” In the e-mailed version of the proposal, under the Basic Info heading, the “date proposed” in the forum was given as March 17, which tacitly assumed that the Poudre Valley chapter would immediately pass a sponsoring resolution at the chapter meeting on March 15 so the proposal could be posted on the state forum on March 17 (see Supplemental Evidence pg. 54). At the chapter meeting, in response to a comment from Ms. Harrington, Mr. Bell conceded that he and Ms. Merida had written the proposal. Two chapter members, one of whom was Ms. Harrington, objected to the extremely long prior registration restrictions. A vote on sponsoring the proposal was delayed until the next meeting, which delayed the appearance of the proposal on the state forum until early April.

**Ms. Merida decided the date and location of the annual meeting, contrary to state bylaw**

Following the day that Proposal 003-17 was posted, Proposal 004-17 (see Evidence pg. 98) was posted on the forum (see Evidence pg. 93) which declared the date of the meeting would be August 12th and the location would be in the Denver metro area. Traditionally the state council has extensive discussions on possible meeting dates and there has historically been an effort to hold the meeting in different areas of the state. In fact there had been council discussion favoring the location on the Western Slope possibly hosted by the new chapter in Mesa County. However this proposal conspicuously failed to mention these discussions or offer any alternative dates and came as a shock/surprise to those of us expecting a Grand Junction state meeting.

**Ms. Merida was aware of and approved of an effort to rig the election at the state meeting and accusations of white supremacy**

The actual motivation behind Proposals 003-17 and 004-17 became apparent when Andrea Merida’s domestic partner and Denver Green Jason Justice made the following Facebook post on April 17th, 2017 (see Evidence pg. 192):

*“I’m not a tagger, but this is a call for revolutionary action. And my partner is much to good a person to put me up to this. So...*

*Comrades. Are you a registered Green? We need your help and solidarity here. There is a faction within the Colorado Green Party, this REVOLUTIONARY party, of white men who spend their time acting as a barrier to our commitment to communities under the boot of capitalism. And just as heinous and counter-revolutionary as these contrarian and privileged white men are, they for sure don’t like an uppity brown woman in the form of my partner Andrea Merida organizing to help POC, veterans, the homeless, the disabled, and the working class. I need to ask a huge favor. Our state meeting is Saturday, August 12th from 9am to 4:30. I am asking you to come support your Comrade, Andrea*

*Merida, who is the State Co-Chair and up for re-election. Her detractors are men who, on top of lacking any honor and solidarity with the working class, are trying hard to solidify their "right" to not fight for the people, not work to organize, and be contrarian to the ideals of revolution and intersectionality. My ask is this-*

*1. If you are registered Green, come to the State meeting. This is the right fight, this is the right time. We in Denver are working to get our Comrade Julie Banuelos elected to the Denver School Board in an at large position which would strike a blow against the establishment. We are hoping to start working to get the camping ban lifted in Denver. And we are working to establish a weekly anti-war protest in downtown Denver.*

*2. If you aren't a registered Green-*

*Register as a Green today and stay registered until after the State Meeting. Some of my friends are Dems, Independents, and Anarchists. The forces of racism and white supremacy are reluctant to let go of their hold on any movement that may upset their privilege. You don't have to stay a Green (although that would be hip) but it's a tangible place to win against the forces of **white supremacy** and mediocrity. Locally and nationally, the Green Party has embraced the ideas of eco socialism, anti fascism, and anti capitalism. In the words of Che Guevara-*

*Above all, always be capable of feeling deeply any injustice committed against anyone, anywhere in the world. This is the most beautiful quality in a revolutionary.*

*Come for the revolution, stay for the Party!*

*Here is the kicker, you have to be registered as a Green 90 days before the meeting. That means by at least Friday May 12th. We have made it impossible to do same day registration at the meeting for voting purposes because there have been many attempts to take over Green locals around the country by white folks who aren't down for the struggle. I can't let that happen here in Colorado. So go to the link at the bottom here and register as a Green. The Green Party of Denver, Colorado, and the USA want to be the revolutionary electoral option you want and need us to be. The reason that we are poised to do so on every level is your Comrade and my partner Andrea Merida. Is always there for you. Be there for her. (plus it will be a great opportunity to make some sorry-ass white dudes suck their thumbs)."*

Ironically, Mr. Justice's post is an effort to bring about the very thing that Proposal 003-17 was supposed to prevent, that is, non-Green folks turning up to the Green Party convention to vote for something that the longer-term members might not support. Astoundingly, Mr. Justice specifically says it's okay if people don't stay registered Green after achieving the single goal of re-electing Ms. Merida.

The above Facebook post is a testament to the hidden agenda of Ms. Merida and her faction. Proposal 003-17 was sponsored by the Denver chapter and other chapters in this faction and Proposal 004-17 was sponsored by co-chairs Ms. Merida and Mr. Bell

(see *Supplemental Evidence pg. 2*). Mr. Justice's Facebook post (to his personal Facebook followers, likely many of whom are followers of his and Ms. Merida's band (Gumbo le Funque)) is an obvious attempt to stack the vote at the upcoming state meeting but it also reveals that these proposals were deceptive in nature. The reason for the later meeting date was not solely to allow Ms. Merida to fulfill a full two-year term as she had contended, but also to facilitate the recruitment of voters for her re-election as co-chair and to implement her hidden agenda and take-over of the GPCO. The 90-day registration requirement was not proposed for the fictitious reasons stated in Proposal 003-14 but rather to create an impediment to the grassroots locals to recruiting voters for an alternative candidate for office of co-chair. Choosing the location for the meeting in the Denver metro area was to enable newly-recruited pro-Merida voters to easily attend the meeting. The Facebook post also alludes to collusion between Ms. Merida and her allies in her faction. She ghost-wrote proposal 003-17 and sponsored proposal 004-17 and her domestic partner took on the dirty work behind the scenes. This raises suspicions that this is a tactic -- hiding her involvement in proposals; -- that Ms. Merida has employed before. She has claimed that the proposal to remove Mr. Bartlett was not hers (*see Evidence pg. 59*), however this recent evidence of collusion would suggest that she had been pulling the strings behind this and other proposals all along. Her process of taking over virtually every facet of the GPCO suggests what has become obvious to many Colorado Green Party (GPCO) members - nothing takes place in the party without Ms. Merida's involvement and approval.

The deception inherent in these proposals also raises questions concerning many of her other actions. If she and her allies are capable of this type of deception did they lie about Mr. Bartlett's alleged threat of physical violence at the People's Fair to which she and Jason Justice were the only witnesses? Why wouldn't all of Ms. Merida's actions in her term as co-chair be called into question? And what about questions of future actions? Is there any reason not to believe she would stop at nothing to eliminate any threat to her dominance over the GPCO including removing dissenting individuals or even local chapters that are not in her faction?

**Ms. Merida elevated values of social justice and feminism above other Green values** During her term as co-chair of the Denver Green Party she initiated a change in the chapter's bylaws as follows:

*"2.2 The Denver Green Party's expression of the 7th and 8th Key Values, as well as of the Third Pillar of the Green Party (Social Justice) causes it to declare that **we are an anti-oppression party, actively dedicated to the work of ending capitalism and dismantling white supremacy and heteropatriarchy.** As such, expressions of sexism, racism, classism, ableism, homophobia, transphobia, and other oppressive behaviors are not in keeping with the values of this party.*

*"2.2.1 Further, **the Denver Green Party explicitly rejects the false ideas of reverse racism, misandry, etc., because we understand the role of white supremacy, heteropatriarchy, etc. in the oppression of our comrades of all colors, genders, and sexual orientations. While prejudice may exist against white people, against men, against cisgender people, against straight people (or any other privileged group), this prejudice is not oppression***

***because there are no institutional power structures designed to disenfranchise these privileged groups.***

*“2.3 The Denver Green Party may use various methods to affect social change, including but not restricted to: campaigning for electoral offices, petitioning for or supporting ballot initiatives, generating public input, community organizing, demonstrations, cross-coalition collaborations, and educational campaigns and outreach. We recognize that in legitimate, legal instances of direct action, violence is typically initiated by the state, **and in keeping with the 5th Key Value (Non-violence), self-defense may be necessary to avert grave injuries or fatalities.**”*

Similar language, copied from the Denver chapter’s bylaws, appeared in the bylaws of the newly-formed Longmont chapter. The last sentence seems to contradict itself. In this context “self-defense” actually seems to imply the legitimacy of violence in some instances.

### **Ms. Merida and Mr. Bell advocated violence in social media posts**

Ms. Merida has also been involved in discussions of employing violence in Facebook posts. On January 23, 2017, Ms. Merida made the following post on Facebook in a conversation about an actual incident that was widely reported of a person being punched while being interviewed on camera ([see Evidence pg. 177](#)):

*“Listen if you can show me a way to put neo-nazis on notice that doesn’t involve cold cocking them one I’m all for it. But as it is, bastards like this guy have non-profit status and parade permits. They are protected by the state.*

*“And save your liberal preaching about free speech. If you aren’t from a community that has to face the ramifications of free speech, then STFU and let me cold cock bastards like this. Or step up. Put your safety pin to work so I don’t have to.”*

This was followed by this post from interim co-chair Mr. Bell:

*“Punching nazis is not only acceptable. It’s required! **Punch them in the face. With a brick!**”*

In conclusion the undersigned members of the GPCO and GPCO state council have serious concerns regarding the future of our party in the hands of these militant radicals. Their rhetoric includes terms like revolutionary party, dismantling white supremacy, the work of ending capitalism, in addition to condoning violence. What is their end game? Is it to transform the Green Party into the political wing of a violent revolution? ([See Sean Friend’s comment, Evidence pg. 136](#)) Is it to create a more exclusive than inclusive party?

Ms. Merida’s comments that ([see Evidence pg. 15](#))

*“Our party, however, must be built with the working class, for whom the stakes are higher and the damage from capitalism is imminent. It must be from the frontline communities who are the first to suffer environmental racism, police brutality, poverty and homelessness.*



*For others, being a Green is an academic exercise. For the rest of us, it's life or death."*

*And (see Supplemental Evidence pg. 48)*

*"One of the most frustrating things about dealing with white privilege is this penchant some of you have, of circling the wagons around each other. Unfortunately, you don't get to decide what's racist and what isn't. I do. Other people of color do."*

*And (see Supplemental Evidence pg. 72)*

*"I'm trying to grow the Party in a different direction than some of these folks want. It's time for an intersectional, revolutionary party of the working class. I'm not worried about what white liberals want."*

*And (see Supplemental Evidence pg. 83)*

*"People who are not intetsectional (sic) are counterrevolutionary."*

and Mr. Justice's comment *(see Supplemental Evidence pg. 79)*

*"New white cracker Greens- if you can't be intersectional, GET THE FUCK OUT OF OUR PARTY. We don't have time for your cowardice."*

certainly belittles the hard work of many dedicated Greens

The co-signers of this letter represent decades of dedicated party building and activism, and Green candidates who have taken on the enormous challenge of running for public office. We have built a state party and worked to support the ten key values.

Under Ms. Merida's control, the Green Party of Colorado has fallen away from several of the party's key values:

- Grassroots Democracy: GPCO Council, charged with ongoing decision making between annual meetings, is not able to act – except on proposals with which Ms. Merida approves. Her (self-appointed) position as Council Facilitator, together with her practice of censoring Council members' posts, diminishes Council to a rubber stamp.
- Nonviolence: Ms. Merida advocates violence, as in *"STFU and let me cold cock bastards like this"*.
- Decentralization: Ms. Merida has consolidated all state party roles unto herself, with the exception of a state co-chair and secretary whom she seems to control.
- Feminism and Gender Equality: Ms. Merida interprets feminism as being a subject to be discussed by women only *(see Evidence pg. 64)*.

### **Request for action by the GPUS**

We are reaching out to the GPUS national committee because we feel we have no other option. Ms. Merida has demonstrated that she can and will circumvent the

participation of the grassroots locals of the GPCO through the various tactics and maneuvers outlined in this statement. We are asking for intervention in our state party and suspension of the current leadership which has violated our party's bylaws and state council procedure as well as the key value of nonviolence. We also feel that the evidence of Ms. Merida condoning violence makes her unfit for service as a co-chair of the GPUS.

One of the basic principles, and a key value, of the Green Party is Grassroots Democracy. Having nearly all positions filled and controlled by one person is completely antithetic to that principle. Even more egregious is the manner in which those positions have been filled and by which such extreme control has been achieved

We call for:

The expulsion from the Green Party of the current leadership due to the deceptive tactics they have employed in order to take over the GPCO, and also for the invalidation of the prior registration requirement, and the delay of the annual meeting.

Appoint a National Committee sub-committee to oversee restoration of the Green Party of Colorado (GPCO).

# Evidence

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## Evidence Group Appendix A: Bill Bartlett Recall

## GPCO Forum

**Council => Proposal Agreement Seeking => Topic started by: Sean Friend on September 22, 2016, 02:19:44 PM**

**Title: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
**Post by: Sean Friend on September 22, 2016, 02:19:44 PM**

This is Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy

Please read the proposal and keep comments on the topic of the proposal only.

Designate your vote by using the following terms: AGREE, BLOCK, or STAND ASIDE. Any blocks will require a vote of the council.

Per Section 5.9 of the GPCO Bylaws, "If any officer or national representative is found to be in contempt of the goals of the Green Party of Colorado, recall proceedings shall be invoked. A three fourths majority of voting members present at a state meeting and/or the Council is required to achieve the recall of an officer."

There are currently eleven ( 11 ) active voting chapters in the Green Party of Colorado. A vote of at least 60% quorum requires at least one response from seven ( 7 ) chapters.

Active Chapters

Jefferson

Adams

Arapahoe County

Denver

Douglas

Greater Boulder

Pikes Peak

Poudre Valley

San Miguel

Southwest

Mesa

The floor is now open for one week of Agreement Seeking (September 29, 2016).

Thank you,  
Sean Friend, Secretary  
Green Party of Colorado

1. Basic Info:

Date proposed: September 22, 2016

Name of the sponsor(s): Poudre Valley Green Party, Arapahoe Green Party

2. Title: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy

3. Text of the actual proposal:

As of the date of the end of agreement seeking (September 29, 2016), as set by the Secretary of the Green Party of Colorado, one of two positions of Co-Chair is declared vacant.



4. Background: This proposal would recall Bill Bartlett from his position as co-chair of the Green Party of Colorado. The sponsoring local chapters have directly experienced and witnessed significant negative interactions with Bill Bartlett, that are inconsistent with several of the 10 Key Values and with our bylaws. Some examples include:

Bill's view of racism is inconsistent with the 8th Key Value (Respect for Diversity). He holds a well-publicized belief in "reverse racism," has expressed more than once that dialogue about racism equates to "anti-white racism," and has exhibited considerable impatience, disdain, gaslighting and silencing when discussing racism with people of color and their allies. He has shown himself incapable of promoting "the development of respectful relationships across these lines," by respecting the life experience of people of color or as contemplated in the 8th Key Value.

Bill's recent interactions with female rank-and-file Greens are inconsistent with the 7th Key Value (Feminism and Gender Equity). Both co-chairs and the secretary were recently sent an email that described an account of sexism that Bill exhibited online (see Example 1, References, below). Further, after the encounter, Bill posted on his own Facebook wall an account that was wholly demeaning to women (see Example 2 in References).

As co-chair, Bill has failed to uphold the ideals of the 1st Key Value (Grassroots Democracy) by attempting to hurry a proposal on a particular potentially divisive issue on Amendment 69 without having followed a legitimate consensus-seeking process and without understanding that some locals were not in agreement. This lack of understanding results from Bill's absence in the dialog and work of the party. He refused to accept a substitute statement that would project a public display of unity in favor of universal health care and respect for dissenting opinions and instead has taken to social media to attack the Green Party of Colorado itself.

Bill has failed to exhibit the basic leadership requirements of the co-chair position as described in the bylaws, since at least 2013 (see Example 3). Bill has rendered no assistance when requested to help plan and conduct state meetings. Further, Bill has not offered assistance in any events of the state party, including the recent presidential candidate visits or in the formation of any new local chapter during his entire tenure as co-chair. He has never attended a meeting of the Poudre Valley Green Party, nor assisted in any of its work, while simultaneously declaring it his local. Additionally, since the time that a Facebook page was created for the Platte Valley Greens on March 28 2013, presumably his home local, no proposal for recognition has been presented to the state council.

Finally, Bill has committed a grave offense against the 4th Key Value (Non-Violence) by physically threatening the female co-chair after becoming visibly intoxicated at the People's Fair in June 2016, an outreach event the state party paid a sizeable sum to participate in.

5. Justification/Goals: Our U.S. Senate candidate was excluded from recent multi-party candidate debates because the Green Party of Colorado's voter registration numbers were too low. Even with the robust growth in registrations shown since 2015, it is reasonable to assume a tapering off after the November 2016 election. At that point, a focused, robust campaign to register new voters will become necessary so that we can properly support future candidates. This work cannot be done without leadership that supports the work of the local chapters by providing resources, guidance and strategies. Our growth as a party is severely hampered because one co-chair is shouldering the burden without any assistance from the other co-chair, and much of those responsibilities are currently being borne by local co-chairs and others.

6. Pros and Cons:

Pros

The division of work of the co-chairs can be equitably shared, so that the party can grow with sufficient support.

A safe environment for people of color and women within our party can be achieved, and trust can be rebuilt, so that the party's growth goals can be met.

Cons

The position of co-chair may be left vacant for an excessive amount of time, thereby perpetuating an already imbalanced division of work between co-chairs.

7. Alternatives to the proposal: Take no action.

8. References: See attachments to this post, as well as additional supporting documentation here: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B-sKCIke8emqU1pxX1lwMUd4b3M?usp=sharing>

Designate your vote by using the following terms: AGREE, BLOCK, or STAND ASIDE. Any blocks will require a vote of the council.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
Post by: **Sean Friend** on **September 22, 2016, 02:26:46 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
Post by: **davebell** on **September 22, 2016, 02:35:17 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
Post by: **Brianna Friend** on **September 22, 2016, 02:50:49 PM**

Agree.

Brianna Friend, Arapahoe Alternate

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
Post by: **rlworthey** on **September 22, 2016, 03:06:07 PM**

Is there any physical evidence of the threats of violence? I was not present, so I cannot attest to this myself.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
Post by: **Jason Justice** on **September 22, 2016, 03:12:39 PM**

I was there when the threats were made. His exact words were "I will fuck you up". The second time he said it he moved into striking distance to Andrea. I then moved in between her and Bill. He then backed up.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**

Post by: **Annie Martinez** on **September 22, 2016, 03:29:10 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**

Post by: **rlworthey** on **September 22, 2016, 03:31:56 PM**

Also, I request to know who took the screenshot of the "most people are cunts." image from his page, as they liked the post themselves.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**

Post by: **davebell** on **September 22, 2016, 03:42:23 PM**

I took that screenshot and I certainly did not mean to like it. It was on my phone so I would like to retract that like officially.

Title: **Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**

Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **September 22, 2016, 04:34:16 PM**

I think this proposal should be withdrawn until we have heard all the facts and all sides and if appropriate have attempted other resolutions to the issues. This fast attempt to get the vote thru is exactly what Bill is accused of (one of the items). Far too often this forum has been used to just post a proposal without any discussion of how it should be worded, and not just by Bill.

Michael Haughey  
JC Greens

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**

Post by: **Shane McDonnell** on **September 22, 2016, 04:47:23 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**

Post by: **Sean Friend** on **September 22, 2016, 05:39:47 PM**

I would be open to possibly extending the discussion period on this proposal. I'm also open to rewording any sections as appropriate. Do you have any particular suggestions for rewording or modifying any sections, Michael?

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**

Post by: **Bill Bartlett** on **September 22, 2016, 05:52:31 PM**

Before this meeting, the one thing I will say is that some people that have responded to this proposal have had opportunities to discuss any issues they may have with me on any number of topics. My history in this party has always been one of inclusiveness, positivism, and sometimes off-color humor.

The idea that a group of people could look me in the eyes, smile with me, hug me at events, and never open a dialogue on something that was apparently deeply troubling to them.. I'm not clear how that lines up with many of our Key Values, or even just simple human values.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
 Post by: **rlworthey** on **September 22, 2016, 08:14:17 PM**

I mean not to be an obstructionist by no means, but I wish to be sure that I am doing the right thing with my vote, so please forgive me if I am asking a great many questions on the matter, but why did no one report this incident in June of 2016 of Mr. Bartlett having threatened violence against the other CO Co-Chair ? Why wait almost 4 months to address it with any of us whatsoever? Why was this proposal not drawn up then?

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
 Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **September 22, 2016, 08:23:05 PM**

I addressed it on July 1 and have uploaded screen shots in the link above.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
 Post by: **rlworthey** on **September 22, 2016, 08:51:28 PM**

I see the google drive screenshots, but none of them address the threat of violence, which would be the most damning of evidence against Mr. Bartlett. Do you have any notes from that having been addressed July 1? Again, I ask why there was no proposal to address it then if it is of importance now.

Again, I just want to be sure that I'm doing the right thing with my vote as a council member.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
 Post by: **Sean Friend** on **September 22, 2016, 09:03:30 PM**

The screenshots Andrea mentions are named July 1.

I do want to offer a reminder that Andrea is not bringing this proposal, and the threat of violence against her is only one of many reasons for the proposal. Even if you are reluctant to believe that Bill threatened a fellow officer, he freely admits to getting drunk and shouting at people at a public event where he represented our state party.

This isn't a personal vendetta between our two co chairs in which you're being asked to take sides. This is multiple people attempting to address our grave concerns with Bill's behavior.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
 Post by: **rlworthey** on **September 22, 2016, 09:21:01 PM**

I never claimed it was a vendetta. I am simply asking questions to get all the facts before I agree or disagree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
 Post by: **Sean Friend** on **September 22, 2016, 09:27:07 PM**

I know, and I'm sorry if that came across as an accusation. I want to be sure that this one item doesn't overshadow the rest of the issues being raised. I didn't even know about the threats until very recently. That said, I believe that Andrea and Jason are telling the truth,

and I also believe that this alone would be enough to warrant recall. But even if it were not on the list, I would still have helped bring this proposal to the council.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
Post by: **Bill Bartlett** on **September 22, 2016, 10:09:12 PM**

The conference call audio is available to everyone invited to tonight's call. Here's the link:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0Bzteq2tfIdXvSnV4NmVSOGI3LVE>  
(<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0Bzteq2tfIdXvSnV4NmVSOGI3LVE>)

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **September 23, 2016, 07:39:34 AM**

As council facilitator, Can I ask why proper protocol wasn't followed by sending this proposal to send to me first? Is that not "rushing" this proposal, just as you accuse Bill of doing with the Amendment 69 proposal?

With that said, this proposal isn't official and should be deleted. If you'd like it to be reposted, follow the proper channels and email it to me first. Come on now people, lets try to emulate some professionalism.

[SMF 2.0.1](#) | [SMF © 2011](#), [Simple Machines](#)

## GPCO Forum

**Council => Proposal Voting => Topic started by: Brittany Hoover on September 27, 2016, 09:36:46 PM**

Title: **Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **September 27, 2016, 09:36:46 PM**

This is Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair

Please read the proposal and keep comments on the topic of the proposal only. Please suggest any amendments or additions for discussion.

**Designate your vote by using the following terms: AGREE, DISAGREE, or STAND ASIDE.**

Per Section 5.9 of the GPCO Bylaws, "If any officer or national representative is found to be in contempt of the goals of the Green Party of Colorado, recall proceedings shall be invoked. A three fourths majority of voting members present at a state meeting and/or the Council is required to achieve the recall of an officer."

There are currently nine ( 9 ) active voting chapters in the Green Party of Colorado. A vote of at least 75% of votes cast and at least one response from five ( 5 ) chapters. Voting will be open for one week and will end on October 4th, 2016.

Active Chapters

Jefferson

Adams

Arapahoe County

Denver

Douglas

Greater Boulder

Pikes Peak

Poudre Valley

Mesa

Thank You,

Brittany Hoover, Council Facillitator

### **1. Basic Info:**

Date proposed: September 27, 2016

Name of the sponsor(s): Poudre Valley Green Party, Arapahoe Green Party

**2. Title:** Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy

### **3. Text of the actual proposal:**

**4. Background:** This proposal would recall Bill Bartlett from his position as co-chair of the Green Party of Colorado. The sponsoring local chapters have directly experienced and witnessed significant negative interactions with Bill Bartlett, that are inconsistent with several of the 10 Key Values and with our bylaws. Some examples include:

Bill's view of racism is inconsistent with the 8th Key Value (Respect for Diversity). He holds

Evidence

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a well-publicized belief in “reverse racism,” has expressed more than once that dialogue about racism equates to “anti-white racism,” and has exhibited considerable impatience, disdain, gaslighting and silencing when discussing racism with people of color and their allies. He has shown himself incapable of promoting “the development of respectful relationships across these lines,” by respecting the life experience of people of color or as contemplated in the 8th Key Value.

Bill’s recent interactions with female rank-and-file Greens are inconsistent with the 7th Key Value (Feminism and Gender Equity). Both co-chairs and the secretary were recently sent an email that described an account of sexism that Bill exhibited online (see Example 1, References, below). Further, after the encounter, Bill posted on his own Facebook wall an account that was wholly demeaning to women (see Example 2 in References).

As co-chair, Bill has failed to uphold the ideals of the 1st Key Value (Grassroots Democracy) by attempting to hurry a proposal on a particular potentially divisive issue on Amendment 69 without having followed a legitimate consensus-seeking process and without understanding that some locals were not in agreement. This lack of understanding results from Bill’s absence in the dialog and work of the party. He refused to accept a substitute statement that would project a public display of unity in favor of universal health care and respect for dissenting opinions and instead has taken to social media to attack the Green Party of Colorado itself.

Bill has failed to exhibit the basic leadership requirements of the co-chair position as described in the bylaws, since at least 2013 (see Example 3). Bill has rendered no assistance when requested to help plan and conduct state meetings. Further, Bill has not offered assistance in any events of the state party, including the recent presidential candidate visits or in the formation of any new local chapter during his entire tenure as co-chair. He has never attended a meeting of the Poudre Valley Green Party, nor assisted in any of its work, while simultaneously declaring it his local. Additionally, since the time that a Facebook page was created for the Platte Valley Greens on March 28 2013, presumably his home local, no proposal for recognition has been presented to the state council.

Finally, Bill has committed a grave offense against the 4th Key Value (Non-Violence) by physically threatening the female co-chair after becoming visibly intoxicated at the People’s Fair in June 2016, an outreach event the state party paid a sizeable sum to participate in.

**5. Justification/Goals:** Our U.S. Senate candidate was excluded from recent multi-party candidate debates because the Green Party of Colorado’s voter registration numbers were too low. Even with the robust growth in registrations shown since 2015, it is reasonable to assume a tapering off after the November 2016 election. At that point, a focused, robust campaign to register new voters will become necessary so that we can properly support future candidates. This work cannot be done without leadership that supports the work of the local chapters by providing resources, guidance and strategies. Our growth as a party is severely hampered because one co-chair is shouldering the burden without any assistance from the other co-chair, and much of those responsibilities are currently being borne by local co-chairs and others.

## **6. Pros and Cons:**

### **Pros**

The division of work of the co-chairs can be equitably shared, so that the party can grow with sufficient support.

A safe environment for people of color and women within our party can be achieved, and trust can be rebuilt, so that the party’s growth goals can be met.

## Cons

The position of co-chair may be left vacant for an excessive amount of time, thereby perpetuating an already imbalanced division of work between co-chairs.

**7. Alternatives to the proposal:** Take no action.

## 8. References:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B-sKCike8emqU1pxX1lwMUd4b3M?usp=sharing>

### Letter from registered Green Danika Carter:

I would like to share some concerns I have about our Co-Chair, Bill Bartlett and his behavior that is unbecoming of a state Co-Chair and creates a hostile environment for women. In a discussion on the GPUS Facebook group there was a discussion happening about sexism in the Presidential election. I was on the receiving end of some very sexist comments and insults from a male Green from California. Bill joined the conversation and rather than making it clear that sexism and attacks upon women bringing up the issue have no place in our party, he actually defended the man making sexist comments, added to the insults and actually accused me of being sexist for bringing up the issue of sexism in the election and defending myself against this man from California. Bill's comments were highly offensive and abusive. His comments were the kind that one would expect to see in a conservative Men's Rights Activist group, not a Green Party group. I expect my Green Party leadership to create a safe environment for women and other marginalized communities to bring up issues of concern relevant to our life experience. Not to participate in derailing those conversations, defending men attacking women for bringing up the issue and insulting them.

Luckily, I have been a Green for 16 years. I have been staff for the Green Party of California before moving to Colorado. However, if I were new to the party and saw this conversation, I would leave it. Immediately. I would not think that this is a party that supports women as equal participants who deserve respect. I would not think this was a group that supports feminism.

It's bad enough to see men who are members of the Green Party behave in such a misogynistic way, but it is simply unacceptable for a member of party leadership to contribute to a hostile environment for women. And sadly, this is not the first time I have seen Bill behave in this way. In fact, even after the Facebook group admins deleted the conversation, he continued the insults and misogyny on his own personal page. I have screenshots should you need them.

Given that Bill has a history of misogynistic behavior and disrespect of women, and does so in a public forum I believe it is time for some sort of action against him. I don't know what party rules allow for, but this cannot continue if our party is going to continue to grow, and continue to be a safe place for women and other marginalized communities. If this is how he treats women he has absolutely no business being in a leadership position.

look forward to hearing from you. Thank you,  
~ Danika Carter

Title: <b>Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy</b> Post by: <b>Tom Hall</b> on <b>September 27, 2016, 09:48:34 PM</b>
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DISAGREE

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
Post by: **Kevin Alumbaugh** on **September 27, 2016, 10:27:53 PM**

DISAGREE.

Kevin Alumbaugh  
Greater Boulder Green Party

Title: **Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **September 27, 2016, 11:04:38 PM**

DISAGREE

Michael Haughey  
Jefferson County Green Party

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **September 27, 2016, 11:25:38 PM**

BTW, the text and title of the proposal (items 2. and 3.) are mis-leading. They may give the false impression that the co-chair position has been vacated.

This is a recall attempt per bylaws section 5.9 which is only allowed "If any officer or national representative is found to be in contempt of the goals of the Green Party of Colorado."

Michael Haughey  
Jefferson County Green Party

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Declaration of Co-Chair Position Vacancy**  
Post by: **Susan Hall** on **September 27, 2016, 11:47:02 PM**

DISAGREE ADAMANTLY

I had intended to post part of the following, but had trouble getting it on line. Please note that [REDACTED] is speaking about Andrea.

(This sentence was created with the first posting). I am at work with a few minutes before the first class and it is not right that over night there are allocations of impropriety and a threat for one long respected Co-Chair should be taken from his position by three people known to be in alignment on an issue most of the rest of the whole state of Colorado Green Party knew nothing about until it is posted here without going through the proper channels of discussing it with the one you have an offense with, posting on the discussion board and finally submitting it to Brittany.

One accusation is of sexism, because of the words amounting to "girls." Well certainly there are members of the accusing group who have used a much worse word to me and I believe he would admit to it, but I would not recommend he be stricken from office for it; not even though he is recommending someone else be stricken from office for less than the obscene word. Rather privately reminded that the members of the Green Party are trying to be professional and respectful.

Another accusation was of being racist because of an error he made about understanding

for the most part racism is an issue that incorporate an understanding of laws for decades, unless one is calling direct names, which then should be taken with a serious discussion, including such name calling as white supremacy. "The belief that all members of each race posses characteristics or abilities specific to that race, especially to distinguish it as inferior or superior to another race (Wikipedia)." It does not mean that we are not to question what different people or different ethnicity or genders say and do; that would be to forfeit equal rights. Every large group has people we agree with or believe are doing right and groups that have the opposite views as ourselves. Our goal is to come to a peaceful understanding and mutual respect; especially those who we are working with in the Green Party or other organizations.

As for Grassroots democracy an "in person" meeting should have been called, maybe 4 months ago with all members long before a proposal for Bill to leave his office.

As for the most serious accusation of him threatening you, that is your word with your husband against Bill's due to having no other proof. I have trouble believing Bill would threaten you period, but it also would not make since with your husband at the fair. As I am now examining and analyzing your and Bill's characters and references, I find in favor of Bill. First because I spend quite a bit of time with him through the years in the Green Party & when I ran for office as the U.S. House in District 2.

But I add two more for now. This woman talked to me about Andrea's rude behavior before any of the issues with Bill came up and I excused it away thinking we needed to focus on the elections and that the problem would pass; which obviously it has not.

September 11, 2016  
Good Morning,

My friends and I have made phone calls, made posters, and helped at every Denver event. We've been to town halls and gatherings at restaurants and bars. We spent hours at a vigil outside a federal prison; we went to see Jill twice. We went to Ajamu's town hall. There has been no support from local party officials for persons wishing to canvass, hold small events or even obtain materials for Jill Stein. People are making up their own campaign materials using their own printers because there is nothing available from the party. We and many others have been extremely active in supporting Arn Menconi and Jill Stein at every single event in the Denver metro area since we chose to DemExit.

An materials order finally came to my home on Friday and my daughter and I spent over 15 hours during the past two days dividing them into packets, creating door hangers by attaching rubber bands or stapling them so they could easily be distributed. We are truly interested in being part of the Green Party because the party values so closely align with our own. We were fortunate to be able to meet Jill and feel strongly about her platform. She is our best hope, and is the only candidate who speaks truth to power.

I am very concerned because the Co-Chair of the Green Party, Andrea Mérida Cuéllar has been posting extremely insulting and inflammatory rhetoric regarding Bernie supporters who chose to move to the Green Party. When my daughter asked for clarification, Andrea and her friends flamed her. Every dissenting opinion has been shot down because Andrea deletes them. She and her friends have spent over 30 hours attacking the integrity and dedication of Bernie supporters.

My daughter and I are currently the only ones distributing campaign materials to the local Greens. Many frustrated people who want to help Jill's campaign are met with silence when they reach out to leadership here. How can the Green Party EVER powerful enough to make the changes in American politics that we need, if their elitist attitudes refuse to allow others to participate.

On Sept. 9, 2016 at 5:53, Andrea Mérida Cuéllar wrote: 'I am absolutely convinced that for the most part, the former Sanders supporter is not our target for recruitment into the Green Party. I just tabled at a "progressive" event in Albuquerque for the Green Party of New Mexico, and the people who were still waffling over whether to be a Green were NOT the two groups of working-class Latinas who are fighting neoliberal assaults on the community, with whom I had good, honest conversations.'

I qualify this by saying there is a difference between voting for Jill and becoming a registered Green Party member (where allowed). There are plenty of good people of good conscience who will be voting for Jill but at the end of the day are going to still "change the Democratic Party from within." All power to them, seriously.

Our party, however, must be built with the working class, for whom the stakes are higher and the damage from capitalism is imminent. It must be from the frontline communities who are the first to suffer environmental racism, police brutality, poverty and homelessness. For others, being a Green is an academic exercise. For the rest of us, it's life or death.

Let's be clear about the difference between simply voting for Jill and becoming a Green. There is a difference.'

Andrea Mérida Cuéllar is very vocal about her elevated status in the Green Party. Does this woman speak for the Party? She makes assumptions about our motivations and class, questions our ethics and insults us. Her comments about race and gender identification in the feed are disturbing for a Party that claims to be inclusive. IS this how the Green Party really feels about bringing other people into the party? Are all our efforts and dedication worthless to the Green Party if we're white, hetero and working class?

After 38 years as a Dem, I left the party; it wasn't a hard decision after seeing their abuse and corruption first hand. I hoped to find a place with the Green Party but the leadership here in Colorado is so dysfunctional that it will be difficult to stay. Please note the screen shots from Andrea Mérida Cuéllar's Facebook page below, as they are most disturbing coming from a National Co-chair.

Hello,

It was brought to my attention that Bill Bartlett is being asked to step down or face a recall vote based on something he said on Facebook.

I do not know what that something is so I don't know personally what is true about the situation. I do however know that I have had reported to me from volunteers serious grievances regarding things Andrea Merida Cuellar our other Co Chair has said.

Many people feel that she should be recalled from her role as state co chair because of her behavior including things she has said on Facebook. So while trying to keep any of my own experiences regarding Andrea out of this, I cannot sit by and not interject the information passed on to me by volunteers that I had passed on at their request to Jill's national campaign a couple of weeks ago.

I don't know all of the co chairs but you can feel free to share this with all of them. If we are going to take actions against our co chairs for things they have said on Facebook, in person, etc., we need to be evenhanded about it and be clear about what constitutes a violation of the party's principles.

I am forwarding two documents. One is the letter and facebook screenshots sent to me by [REDACTED] that she requested I send to Jill's national campaign. I did nothing with this except exactly what she asked me to do. She has given her permission to have this shared among Green Party leaders/members.

The second will come separately and is from [REDACTED] who has expressed issues in the past that were of concern to me and she doesn't share much of her unpleasant direct experiences but her opinion after having had them. She heard about this situation with Bill and wanted to contribute her feelings, she apparently does know the issue at hand regarding him.

You are invited to call [REDACTED] with any questions you have.

I feel it is important for the party to take the entire situation together and look at what is in the best interest of the party and its members. It brings me no joy to share this but I feel a responsibility to do so under the circumstances as a volunteer leader and new member of the party.

I am leaving much out of this where I am personally concerned and where Arn is concerned, as his campaign manager, because I don't think it is necessary in order to have a conversation about these matters.

Lauren Brillante

From: [REDACTED]

Date: September 11, 2016 at 7:04:26 AM MDT

To: [arn@arnmenconi.com](mailto:arn@arnmenconi.com)

Subject: How the Green Party National Co-Chair feels about newcomers.

Good Morning,

I am very concerned because the National Co-Chair of the Green Party, Andrea Mérida Cuéllar has been posting extremely insulting and inflammatory rhetoric regarding Bernie supporters who chose to move to the Green Party. When my daughter asked for clarification, Andrea and her friends flamed her. Every dissenting opinion has been deleted by Andrea after flaming, denigrating and insulting them. She and her friends have spent over 30 hours attacking the integrity and dedication of Bernie supporters.

My daughter and I are currently the only ones distributing campaign materials to the local Greens. Many frustrated people who want to help Jill's campaign are met with silence when they reach out to leadership here. How can the Green Party EVER be powerful enough to make the changes in American politics that we need, when a leader's elitist, racist and sexist attitudes prevent others from participating. Andrea has not done anything to help Jill win and indeed after the Ajamu town hall, she said she wasn't sure about Jill. In person she is barely civil to anyone except her inner circle. She won't give out materials and hoards them. Then she came out with this:

On Sept. 9, 2016 at 5:53, Andrea Mérida Cuéllar wrote: I am absolutely convinced that for the most part, the former Sanders supporter is not our target for recruitment into the Green Party. I just tabled at a "progressive" event in Albuquerque for the Green Party of New Mexico, and the people who were still waffling over whether to be a Green were NOT the two groups of working-class Latinas who are fighting neoliberal assaults on the community, with whom I had good, honest conversations.

I qualify this by saying there is a difference between voting for Jill and becoming a registered Green Party member (where allowed). There are plenty of good people of good conscience who will be voting for Jill but at the end of the day are going to still "change the Democratic Party from within." All power to them, seriously.

Our party, however, must be built with the working class, for whom the stakes are higher and the damage from capitalism is imminent. It must be from the frontline communities who are the first to suffer environmental racism, police brutality, poverty and homelessness.



For others, being a Green is an academic exercise. For the rest of us, it's life or death.

Let's be clear about the difference between simply voting for Jill and becoming a Green. There is a difference.'

Andrea Mérida Cuéllar is very vocal about her elevated status in the Green Party. Does this woman speak for the Party? She makes assumptions about our motivations and class, questions our ethics and insults us. Her comments about race and gender identification in the post and comments are disturbing for a Party that claims to be inclusive. IS this how the Green Party really feels about bringing other people into the party? Are all our efforts and dedication worthless to the Green Party? Are only 'dark trans young people' welcome? After 38 years as a Dem, I left the party; I hoped to find a place with the Green Party but the leadership here in Colorado is so dysfunctional that it will be difficult to stay. Please note the screen shots from Andrea Mérida Cuéllar's facebook page on the attached document, they are the most important piece of this problem.

Thank you,



--

Lauren Brillante  
Campaign Manager, Arn Menconi For U.S. Senate

Bob,

The screen shots did not copy, but I can get them again.

Kevin worked very hard on the statement he presented on the forum. He invited Tom, Carolyn, our GBGP Co Chair who is also a woman who has spent many years with the Rocky Mtn Peace and Justice Center, and myself to discuss the statement before creating and submitting it. He wanted to try and find some peace between the two CO Chairs, Andrea & Bill, so that we could not do this wrongful accusation to Bill and go back to working on the campaigns at hand.

However Our Greater Boulder Green Party statement has turned into a side statement with no real teeth in it; thus Kevin's Block becomes perhaps a push for a vote and Andrea has already begun working toward this end before the proposal.

I would never have brought any of these things to this forum had I not thought that Bill Bartlett is being wrongly and unjustly accused.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **davebell** on **September 28, 2016, 10:16:20 AM**

Agree

In reference to the emergency council meeting on 9/22/2016 (audio linked here <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0Bzteq2tfIdXvSnV4NmVSOGI3LVE> (<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0Bzteq2tfIdXvSnV4NmVSOGI3LVE>)), I would just like to state for the record that within 15 minutes of the opening of this meeting, every single person that has access to this recording or was sitting on the call has personally witnessed the behavior that is the source of this complaint. Andrea was asked by the members of the council to give her account of the situation at the People's Fair. As Andrea began speaking she was interrupted and shouted down by Bill within seconds. She calmly asked if she could finish, and was interrupted and shouted down again within seconds. She responded that she understands that situation is stressful and that she would be willing to tell this story off line to any one interested. At this point, the council members present stated that they would like to hear Andrea's story uninterrupted on this call so that it would be part of the record. Andrea again began recounting her experience and was immediately interrupted and shouted down again by Bill. After being unable to get more than 30 seconds into her testimony, Andrea then repeated that she was going to leave the call, and again extended the offer to tell this story to anyone who is interested in hearing it. She then left the call. Bill's behavior in this instance is unacceptable, and clearly illustrates the need for this level of intervention. Bill does not get to decide how Andrea's account of these events is framed. Additionally, This council has no right to determine the timeline for the redress of Andrea's grievance.

Over the next hour and 30 or so minutes, Bill was given several minutes to refute Andrea's testimony that was never formally heard by this council. During that conversation there were many comments (by Bill and other council members) about Andrea's character and her behavior, and many excuses and justifications made for Bill's behavior. There were repeated statements that Andrea has been less than admirable in her interactions with former Bernie supporters. I refute that statement by reminding everyone in this council that Andrea has facilitated and supported the creation of two new chapters made up of primarily former Bernie Supporters in this state in the last 3 months, and there are 4 more forming as this conversation is happening. There was also some criticism regarding the fact that we have candidates in the field and that we should not be fighting each other right now. I do not need to remind anyone that at the end of August, Dr. Jill Stein came to Colorado and we had 4 well attended, very successful events that brought a lot of attention to our candidates. Andrea played an unrivaled role in organizing and executing those events. With all of that out of the way, I would like to remind everyone that this discussion is not about Andrea. If you feel that this party is suffering under her leadership I would invite you to continue that conversation outside of this discussion.

This discussion is about how this party is suffering under Bill's leadership. There is overwhelming evidence (shared in the google drive) to support the claims made in this proposal. The first example is a formal complaint by a female member of our State Party stating that Bill's conduct creates an unsafe space for women. His response to the post in question was to call her a "girl" and then a "sexist" on his own timeline. The reality is, women cannot be sexist against men because they are oppressed by patriarchy. Fighting oppression does not make a person guilty of the same oppression. Bill even stated in the emergency council meeting that he had clashed with Danika multiple times in the past, which was corroborated by Danika in her official complaint.

I would like to address a few things that were stated in the meeting on 9/22. Bill said in no uncertain terms that he had not heard Andrea's story. That statement is absolutely false. On July 1st Bill and Andrea engaged in a conversation about this event over Facebook messenger. The screen shots are shared in the google drive link provided in the proposal (also linked here: <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/0B-sKCIke8emqU1pxX1lwMUd4b3M> (<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/0B-sKCIke8emqU1pxX1lwMUd4b3M>)). They are named "July 1-1.png, July 1-2.png, July 1-3.png, July 1-4.png, July 1-5.png, July 1-6.png, July 1-7.png, July 1-8.png".

Next, we were accused of spying on Bill. I believe that interpretation is inaccurate. Bill and I are friends on Facebook and quite often interact with each other's posts in various ways. We have even disagreed on some pretty fundamental issues from time to time. One of those disagreements is cited as source material for this proposal. Calling this spying does one of two things: it either points to a misunderstanding of social media functionality, or it is a word that was specifically chosen to paint Bill as the victim in this scenario. Having a debate on Facebook, even on your personal timeline, is visible to everyone that you are connected to and anyone they can share it with or tag into the conversation. The reach of social media is unprecedented in our history, and the amount of damage that can be done to our party by statements made on social media is immeasurable.

In addition, Bill stated that he had not been confronted about this behavior and that this recall attempt was unexpected. The truth is, Bill has been challenged on these beliefs many times by non-greens, greens, state party members, even including Sean Friend and myself (cited in the screenshots). I understand that our 10 KV are not intended to to be a mandate for individual behavior. However, if we can't hold our officers accountable to our values, how can we expect to implement them as a matter of public policy.

The question in this proposal is not whether or not Bill harbors views that are unacceptable to me. The question is, do these views held by an officer in our state party conflict with our values in a way that makes him unfit to hold the title of State Co-Chair of the Green Party of Colorado.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Meral Sarper** on **September 28, 2016, 11:18:45 AM**

AGREE (to recall)

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Jason Justice** on **September 28, 2016, 11:35:19 AM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Amanda "Tink" Trujillo** on **September 28, 2016, 11:45:08 AM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **John Wontrobski** on **September 28, 2016, 02:04:20 PM**

Disagree.

John Wontrobski  
San Miguel County Greens- Co-Chair

Evidence

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Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Jonathan Lullo** on **September 28, 2016, 03:09:56 PM**

Stand Aside

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Sierra Garcia-Lock** on **September 28, 2016, 03:13:20 PM**

Agreed.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Scott Lupo** on **September 28, 2016, 03:24:15 PM**

Disagree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Sean Friend** on **September 28, 2016, 03:39:59 PM**

Agree.

It's disturbing to me that this has started to be framed as a dispute between Andrea and Bill. Only one of the items on the proposal relates to her at all, and there are enough other items to demonstrate the necessity of recall. I and others involved in drafting this proposal have challenged Bill around his statements and actions multiple times, and I have personally tried to offer him resources on racism with no response. The impracticality of calling an in person meeting right now seems self evident for folks all over the state weeks before an election.

There have been accusations of trying to rush this proposal through. I have already expressed my willingness to extend the discussion period and consider amendments to the proposal. The only reason we are currently on such a short time line for voting on this proposal is the Block presented in Agreement Seeking. I was also not aware that I was breaking protocol by posting a proposal myself, as three out of the previous six proposals posted in Agreement Seeking have not been posted by the Council Facilitator. My understanding was that elected officers of the party would be allowed to post a proposal for discussion.

I'd like to ask the other members of the council who have leveled accusations of impropriety in relation to this proposal to explain what they think we should do with the multiple accusations that have been brought by multiple registered Greens in this state against Bill. As a white cis man who is trying to resist oppression, I am trying to make this party a safe place for marginalized people. I believe that the first and most basic step in doing that is to believe women who accuse a white man in a position of power of sexism and threats of violence. If that makes me an anti-male sexist, I will wear that label as a badge of honor.

I would like to close by pointing out that attacks on Andrea's character and behavior are frankly irrelevant to this proposal, as she is not the subject of recall. They are also highly inappropriate, as she did not bring this proposal or ask it to be brought. I would like to request that the council keep comments on the topics covered in the proposal and refrain from personal attacks.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Karyna Lemus** on **September 28, 2016, 03:55:08 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Brianna Friend** on **September 28, 2016, 04:48:17 PM**

Agree.

Brianna Friend

Arapahoe Party Alternate

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **September 28, 2016, 04:54:12 PM**

Sean,

In regards to you stating you did not realize you were breaking protocol and that other proposals were not posted by me: one, as I stated in my e-mail to you, Andrea asked me if she could post in my place because I couldn't do it in an appropriate time frame. She asked before she posted. Bill also posted a proposal in the forum and immediately sent out an email to me, and CC'ed to you, Andrea, and Tom dated September 4th and stating the following:

Quote

Hi Brittany,

When I posted my last proposal, I realized that the chairs have broken protocol when it comes to proposals.

Brittany, the Facilitator, is supposed to receive them and fill out that top portion (referencing the Bylaws and quorum). Then she posts the completed version to the forum for the council to make their vote.

Any members may submit a proposal to the Facilitator. They don't have to go to Council Discussion first. Council Discussion is a place to clean up and fill out a proposal with the group before Agreement Seeking. The Facilitator is the officer that posts the Proposals for voting.

The Facilitator works with the State Secretary to verify the voting council members from active chapters, as missing too many votes will cause a chapter to fall inactive.

First, sorry for my part in that broken protocol. I got used to being an Interim Facilitator.

And second, would you mind checking my list and making sure of my active chapter list?

<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=285.0>

I'll post this as a bare-bones proposal template so our officers have a reminder of how to create and submit proposals.

So in regards to you not knowing you broke protocol, if you were reading your email, you should have known. I'm not sure why you're even bringing this up in the forum when I discussed it privately via email? It's no longer relevant.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Annie Martinez** on **September 28, 2016, 05:17:09 PM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **John Anderson** on **September 28, 2016, 05:51:08 PM**

AGREE

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Dustin Fiortinez** on **September 28, 2016, 06:12:44 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **September 28, 2016, 06:17:54 PM**

Scott Lupo and Dustin Fiortinez, can you let me know what chapters you represent? You can reply here or email me at [Brittany.HooverATC@gmail.com](mailto:Brittany.HooverATC@gmail.com). Thanks!

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **kcterry** on **September 28, 2016, 07:15:24 PM**

Agree

Poudre Valley Green Party

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Angela Humphrey** on **September 28, 2016, 08:21:32 PM**

STRONGLY AGREE

It seems that Mr. Bartlett holds the notion that "reverse racism" is a thing, according to some facebook posts that I have seen. There is no room in the Green Party for white supremacist words or behavior, most especially from someone in a position of leadership.

Also, what has Bill Bartlett done for the Green Party lately? Does he roll up his sleeves and talk to the people, all people no matter what race or class? Is he a strong organizer? Does he show true dedication to the people, or is he content to be just a figure head? I don't know the answer to these questions, but it does seem that he hasn't done much to contribute as the state co-chair. I believe the position would be better filled by someone one dedicated to working hard, serving the community, fighting racism and white supremacy, sexism, classism, and gender bias, and also someone who understands intersectionality and is willing to humble him, her or themselves in order to be an effective leader. If Mr. Bartlett doesn't check off on these categories, which I don't believe he does, than the answer is to recall.

Thank you for the opportunity to cast a vote and speak my voice.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Larry Dunn** on **September 28, 2016, 10:25:04 PM**

Agree.

-Lawrence Dunn  
Adams County

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Chris Allen** on **September 28, 2016, 10:41:38 PM**

Abstain or Stand aside.



Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Art Goodtimes** on **September 29, 2016, 01:09:30 AM**

disagree  
artg  
san miguel greens

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Shane McDonnell** on **September 29, 2016, 08:51:25 AM**

Agree.

Shane McDonnell  
Mesa County Green Party

As a side note...

After seeing accusations about Andrea, I have to say that the accusations are the opposite of what I have seen from her. Most of our members are former Berners, including myself. Although we have had disagreements on issues, she has been very knowledgeable and professional in all communications I have had with her. She is an amazingly passionate leader who has helped us so much in the little time we have known her.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Nancy York** on **September 29, 2016, 09:19:31 AM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Bill Bartlett** on **September 29, 2016, 09:28:18 AM**

Disagree, obviously.

This proposal contains an outright lie, two misleading statements, and two items that are definitely worthy of discussion.. when people are willing have mature discussions.

My work with disenfranchised communities began before I took the chair, and will continue regardless of the positions I hold in this or any other organization.

Just in the last year, three major community leaders have joined the Green Party as a result of the work I've done in the field. All of them hold close roots to communities of color.

What remains to be seen is whether this party's members are mature enough to support the communities we claim to represent.

If this party wishes to grow into a robust organization, our members must be willing to engage in constructive dialog with people we don't agree with. Even, and perhaps especially, when we count the contentious amongst our ranks.

Facebook comments are not a discussion. Email criticism is not discussion. Even this forum is not true discussion.

When I came into the chair, we had weathered a storm that crushed this party, and it was caused by accusations based in rumor and fear, and a lack of true communication.

Everyone relied on the listserv to "discuss" issues, but they let arguments fester outside of that medium. A split was created and we lost momentum and leadership in the party. We truly have not recovered from that rupture.

To see this pattern repeated is worrying to those of us that have weathered this storm once in the past.

What we must understand now, as a team of sailors working the deck of this fine ship we call the Green Party of Colorado, is that we must be prepared to weather endless storms. They will come from within, they will come from without, and they will challenge us to the core of our beings.

That is why we must always band together against the Spirit of Division until all avenues of redress have been explored.

Have a blessed day, everyone.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Jonathan Lullo** on **September 29, 2016, 12:05:18 PM**

I'd like to change my vote from Stand Aside to Agree.

My decision to Agree is based on a proposal of two matters that need to be addressed:

1) Racism is unacceptable at any level of our society, and should not be a part of this group. From his facebook, he hasn't shown much racism but more sexism. He has also clearly shown off that he is clearly ignorant, not supportive of the Presidential Candidate Jill Stein and not representing the party correctly, which brings me to the second issue

2) Private FaceBook accounts v Public FaceBook Accounts : If people in a position want to use facebook, they should probably make a separate public facebook regarding their standing as a public official and keep a private one if they need to go on blast and vent from time to time to their friends and loved ones. Or just use the telephone again to call people, either way... I bring this up because this should be the next issue addressed and resolved on a state and possibly even a national level, if other party chapters haven't already done this.

I do agree after reading over everything again. Bill, although I do not know you, never met you, and it is nothing personal, I would have to also Agree you are not doing your end and living up to that office regardless of how much importance you place in it, people are placing their trust in you to do the job and be as squeaky clean as possible doing it. I mean let's be honest, most of the politicians in DC are crooks, but they know how to play the part of the clean upstanding citizen. So yea due to you airing out your dirty laundry all over a social medium while you are suppose to represent the party, also putting down the chosen Presidential candidate, thwarting the goal of 5%, I am going to have to Agree with your removal.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Roberta Ayala** on **September 29, 2016, 12:46:34 PM**

Agree

Adams County

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Andrew Hamilton** on **September 29, 2016, 12:53:31 PM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Bob Kinsey** on **September 29, 2016, 08:59:37 PM**

Stand Aside--While I agree that being publicly drunk and disorderly while in a Green Party booth-- admittedly so drunk he can't remember what he said or did --is an impeachable offense when it comes to a representative of the party, I am chagrined that this issue was brought up so late and within the context of the disagreement between Arn, Bill, and Andrea over Amendment 69. This too should have been brought to a proposal much earlier since the Green Party (and me as US Senate Candidate in 2008 and 2010) have endorsed single payer and sought the elective support of HCAC as the only party really committed to their agenda. How that slipped under the rug at the State Meeting is beyond me but I think I remember Bill saying that Andrea didn't want to deal with it then and kept it off the agenda. I do believe that this issue is a part of the animus that led Bill to act out because he believed we should have been endorsing it at that time but allowed that discussion to be put off. Then Arn felt unsupported in his stance in favor of ColoradoCare.

In my opinion we had a responsibility to deal with this issue. My judgement is that Bill has done a lot of good things for the party taking leadership along with Art when we were at a very difficult place. Now we are back at square one hurling personal charges at each other rather than working together while privately disciplining Bill. I also believe that Andrea has added incredible organizational skills and leadership (I can't understand how she can be Denver co-chair, State co-chair, National Rep and now national co-chair and keep it all together. but she seems to be functioning well though she seems to have some detractors.) Bottom line, I think it is irresponsible for us to be dealing with this important but divisive matter rather than attempting to get our campaign responsibilities as efficient and effective as possible these last 50 days. I have spent too much time reading all this stuff trying to sort through fact from hurt feelings, rather than on what I wanted to be doing to forward Jill and Arn's campaigns. At least the GP-PPR has managed to study ColoradoCare and to finally vote to endorse it. My phone banking hasn't happened, but we have held 3 honk and wave signings so far with signs for ARN and JILL and REGISTER GREEN-VOTE GREEN! It would be nice for there to be some reporting about how our efforts are going and how we are welcoming the Berners into the party.

Title: **Re: Proposal 005-16: Recall of Co-Chair**

Post by: **Bill Bartlett** on **October 02, 2016, 03:37:37 PM**

This proposal looks as though it will fail, but either way the GPCO has already lost. Letting this vote continue simply proves that we didn't stumble, and instead are striding squarely into foolishness.

The newest members of this council suffer the most. Allowing the group to eat one of their own sets a bad precedent, and I didn't lend my talents to this party to be served up for dinner. This isn't how Greens behave toward one another, and someone has to start proving that point.

Some of our veteran members have given me hope that this party can recover quickly from this mob rule and lend their ample wisdom in restoring order to this great ship called the GPCO.

To those that fought for me to remain, thank you for your support during this storm. We may be able to recover from this conflict, but there are more to come. Remember that

leadership doesn't begin or end with a title, and a movement doesn't begin or end in a political party.

Though I will no longer serve as co-chair, I remain dedicated to the issues and communities that need representation. This council is losing it's ability to guide itself by the spirit of the 10KVs. When it has found it's way back to that spirit, I'll consider rejoining state leadership.

Let my walking away be a rallying cry to this council and our Colorado Greens that want to remain focused on issues and candidates rather than murmurs and accusations.

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## GPCO Forum

**Council => Proposal Voting => Topic started by: Brittany Hoover on October 19, 2016, 12:31:26 PM**

**Title: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
**Post by: Brittany Hoover on October 19, 2016, 12:31:26 PM**

This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.

Please read the proposal and keep comments on the topic of the proposal only. Please suggest any amendments or additions for discussion.

Designate your vote by using the following terms: **AGREE, DISAGREE, or STAND ASIDE.**

Per section 4.3 of the bylaws: All decisions concerning policy, finance, and objectives shall require consensus or a vote of at least 60% of the membership present at a state meeting and/or the Council. The Green Party of Colorado may adopt a party Platform by consensus or a vote of at least 60% of the membership present at a state meeting. Party officers and national representatives shall be chosen by consensus or a vote of at least 60% of members present at the annual meeting."

There are currently eleven ( 11 ) active voting chapters in the Green Party of Colorado. A vote of at least 60% quorum requires at least one response from seven ( 7 ) chapters.

Active Chapters  
Jefferson  
Adams  
Arapahoe County  
Denver  
Douglas  
Greater Boulder  
Pikes Peak  
Platte Valley  
Poudre Valley  
Mesa  
San Miguel

The floor is now open for one week of voting (October 19, 2016 - October 26, 2016 ).

### **1. Basic Info:**

Date proposed: October 15, 2016

Name of the sponsor(s): Jeffco Green Party, Greater Boulder Green Party

**2. Title:** Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.

**3. Text of the proposal:** The sponsors of this proposal believe it would be in the best interest of the Green Party of Colorado to suspend the bylaws and hold immediate elections for both Co-Chair positions for interim terms and a "cooling off" period and then hold elections at the next State Party meeting for full terms.

**4. Background:** The recent proposal to remove Bill Bartlett from his position as co-chair and his subsequent resignation have created a deep divide in the state party between council members who feel that the accusations against him were based on circumstantial evidence and hearsay and those who feel the accusations were justified and some who feel the accusations were not worthy of a recall. There has been a considerable amount of contention in the leadership of the GPCO between the co-chairs which appears to have led to the recall vote. The divide also seems to have created opposing factions between local chapters that could eventually become a deterrent to cooperation and consensus building within the party and has already become a major obstacle for volunteers attempting to help our candidates.

There are allegations regarding co-chair Andrea Merida Cuellar that remain unaddressed. However, the national election is 4 weeks away and this divide is causing an unacceptable level of distraction when our full attention is needed on the elections. Our senate candidate Arn Menconi is now without any co-chair support at the time he needs it the most. Andrea is now the paid regional coordinator for the Jill Stein presidential campaign and her full attention is needed there.

To illustrate the seriousness of the unaddressed allegations on one side of the divide, here is a brief summary. There has been a considerable amount of contention between co-chair Andrea Merida Cuellar and several party members, former Bernie Sanders supporters, former Democrats seeking to align themselves with the Green Party, Libertarians who support Jill Stein, and our U.S. Senate candidate, Arn Menconi. Some of these are documented in Facebook posts. There are allegations of expenses having been made without council approval including additional features of NationBuilder and hot spots. There are allegations that the website has been rebuilt by Andrea without collaboration with the website committee or the other co-chair. There is alleged at least the appearance of unprecedented control of the party by one person. There are facebook posts that appear to trivialize the intentions and beliefs of those who are not "working class" as an "academic exercise".

The sponsors of this proposal believe that continuing the blame game and creating further contention at this critical election time will do serious harm to the GPCO. We feel that it would be appropriate to start with a clean slate in regards to the office of co-chairs during a cooling off period and provide an opportunity to elect new and neutral leadership that could bridge the divide that has been created.

**5. Justification/Goals:** The sponsors of this proposal believe that the current situation is urgent. Volunteers have requested that this situation be resolved no later than 2 weeks prior to the 2016 U. S. general and presidential election, which would be October 25 (the election is November 8th). Therefore a discussion period of three days, and then a voting period of 4 days on this proposal is proposed; Then a nominating period of four days to begin if and when the proposal is passed. This would be followed by three days of voting using Instant Runoff Voting with the results tallied and posted on the Forum by the secretary. Any registered Green would be eligible to be nominated and all registered Greens could vote on the Forum. Andrea Merida-Cuellar and Bill Bartlett would be ineligible for the interim election but would be eligible for nomination at the next state meeting.

**6. Pros:** By holding new interim elections for both co chair positions the GPCO would have an opportunity to begin to heal the divide that has been created by electing, new, objective leadership who can give support to all Colorado candidates at this crucial time.

Cons: Not holding new co chair elections would perpetuate the current divide and opposing factions in the party and be an ongoing deterrent to the future progress of the GPCO.

**7. Alternatives to the proposal:** Eliminating the position of co-chairs and conduct the business of the GPCO entirely through the consensus of the state council.



Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**

Post by: **Jason Justice** on **October 19, 2016, 02:31:11 PM**

My vote is No. Joseph Scardetta is correct in saying this proposal is about race.

In Denver, we have been organizing and adding new members from communities of color.

We offer them a safe place to talk about their life experiences dealing with white supremacy without fear of white people telling them that their feelings or experiences are illegitimate or saying to them that "All Lives Matter."

If they knew that there are white liberals in this party who are not fully intersectional with their struggles, Black Lives Matter, police violence on communities of color, Immigration and detention of families escaping violence in their home countries, LGBTQIA+ issues, especially queer and trans youth living on the street, income inequality between white people and communities of color, they would not be involved in the Denver Greens.

How dare the writers of this proposal fail to believe that Bill Bartlett physically threatened Andrea Mérida when I was there and had to stand in front of him so he couldn't take a swing at her. But the white-privileged proponents of this proposal couldn't believe it, because maybe you feel she had it coming? Do you feel that way about other women as well? Or is it just women of color? Shame on you.

These half-baked allegations are scurrilous lies at best and serve a racist, sexist, and classist agenda. There is a clear direction that the national party is taking after the Houston convention, which is to become intersectional and fight for the rights of oppressed communities.

Why is it that the 7 new chapters that have come/are coming online are made up of former Berners? Isn't this the very same outreach to Sanders supporters you're accusing Andrea of not doing? What is your part in that effort? How does that happen if she is "not welcoming?"

This proposal has no merit, no integrity, no truth, not compliant the bylaws or procedure, and is fulfilling a racist and sexist agenda that these so-called white liberals are upholding by failing to hold accountable those who show these behaviors. Whether or not you hold these ideals in your hearts, the outcome is the same.  
[/quote]

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**

Post by: **Dustin Fiortinez** on **October 19, 2016, 03:00:21 PM**

Absolutely not. I find Andrea one of if not the most important member of our states party. Her interseccionality is second to none and I find that to be crucial. Also I don't much care what former Bernie supporters think, I supported him to some extent but I refuse to sit idly by while Bernie bots attack Andrea. Oddly enough when I say the same things as Andrea I don't get nearly the backlash (guess that happens as a white male). I'll say it one final time, I vote as strong of any vote as is possible.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**

Post by: **Shane McDonnell** on **October 19, 2016, 03:05:55 PM**

Disagree!!!

Shane McDonnell  
Mesa County Green Party

As I stated earlier in another vote, I have to say that the accusations about Andrea are the opposite of what I have seen from her. Most of our members are former Berners, including myself. Although we have had disagreements on issues, she has been very knowledgeable and professional in all communications I have had with her. She is an amazingly passionate leader who has helped us constantly. A loss of Andrea to the party would be unfixable on so many levels. She is an asset to the Green Party.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**

Post by: **Sierra Garcia-Lock** on **October 19, 2016, 03:10:20 PM**

I am against this proposal for the following reasons:

1. Andrea is very proactive, constantly finding ways to see us over here on the Western Slope and we are primarily made of Berners.
2. Without Andrea we wouldn't have near the support we have as a new chapter here in Grand Junction.
3. When it comes to the spending issue, Nation Builder is 100% necessary in doing the ground work we are all doing.
4. Who is going to be responsible in the 11 days listed on the proposal? We don't have 11 days to just throw away the election is in 20 days and whoever is elected Co Chairs aren't going to have enough time to acclimate and get everything together.
5. I heard from Andrea and Jason what happened that night, and what all the people saying it didn't are doing is called victim shaming. That was attempted assault and you are saying simply because he is your friend that he couldn't have done that. Isn't that the same thing rapists friends and family say? Very Anti- Green.
6. We are all adults, why are we wasting time focusing on this when we have so many other things to worry about? When you go to work and don't like a co-worker or your boss do you campaign to get them fired? NO. Leave it at the door. Your personal relationship has nothing to do with establishing a Party. Leave it at the door. Andrea is awesome and puts a lot of work into what she does.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**

Post by: **Annie Martinez** on **October 19, 2016, 04:20:07 PM**

I couldn't more wholeheartedly DISAGREE

Andrea has been vital in recruiting new members and fostering the development of this party in CO.

She does the work of over 100 people and she does it with spirit and gusto.

She also does the work 99% of us cant or wont do.

As a Latinx I find this very disheartening... seeing Andrea as a beacon of what a strong brown woman in leadership could be has been inspiring... till having to witness the utter BS that she is handed over and over again by quite frankly a bunch of whiney white people...

All this tells me is that when I am confident and assertive, I'll be construed as petty, argumentative and unable to get along with. From the one place I truly was expecting better. How sad.

I am disappointed in seeing this and having to respond but so be it.

Once again, strongly disagree.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Joseph Scardetta** on **October 19, 2016, 04:20:50 PM**

DISAGREE

I blocked this proposal in the consensus-seeking stage for the following reasons, and I quote myself:

"I fully support Andrea Mérida Cuéllare. She has been an invaluable resource and mentor to me as a leader in our party. As I see it, she has done nothing that could be construed as inconsistent with the 10 Key Values. Her work as co-chair of both the state and national parties as well as within the Latinx caucus has greatly contributed to the recent successes of our party. She is the most politically intersectional person I know. As a Xicano, I feel that race is the primary motivation for this proposal."

Upon blocking, I was immediately accused of playing the "race card" and "crying wolf," which I honestly expected to happen. In our racist society wherein white people hold all institutional power, the burden of proof falls on us people of color. I don't need safe spaces to call out racism as I see it. Amen, I say to you: these are baseless accusations against Andrea.

1. Any money spent by Andrea did not exceed the amount allowed without Council approval; indeed, some of those funds came out of her own pocket.
2. Andrea did not propose the removal of Bill Bartlett, and as far as I know had nothing to do with it. And for the record, I was AGAINST removing Bill, as he too has been an invaluable resource to me in spearheading the Platte Valley Greens.

3. Andrea's public statements are in line with the 10 Key Values, and are intended to feed the debate among members of our own party. There is nothing contained within them that degrades the wealthy, white-collar, white-skinned, cisgender, heterosexual men and women who are airing concerns about having their privilege checked by this courageous and wise Latina.

On the contrary, I feel there is a concerted effort to depose Andrea because certain members feel uncomfortable with a religious woman of color leading our party, speaking truth to power, and calling out the injustices that have existed within our party for decades. I was at the convention in Houston this past summer. There is a loud cry for our Green Party to become more intersectional within our own ranks. There was also a very vocal minority spouting white supremacy and heteronormativity. I'm drawing a line with this proposal.

I am including a Dropbox link to a Word .doc file that includes several email chains that have been sent to me, which I find disturbing, as evidence to warrant my claims.

<<https://www.dropbox.com/s/7zrh0uoy7yp2m04/Supplementary%20Document%20to%20Proposal%20007-16.docx?dl=0>>

I want to thank forum moderator Brittany Hoover for maintaining the utmost level of professionalism during this highly contentious process.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Brianna Friend** on **October 19, 2016, 04:24:09 PM**

Disagree.

Brianna Friend  
Arapahoe Party

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Brianna Friend** on **October 19, 2016, 04:40:09 PM**

For all of the above reasons!! I also can't believe we're having this discussion.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Larry Dunn** on **October 19, 2016, 06:18:10 PM**

DISAGREE

And I would like to support the words of Joseph Scardetta in his statement above.

Lawrence Dunn  
Adams County Green Party (ACGP)

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Andrew Hamilton** on **October 19, 2016, 07:37:15 PM**

Vehemently disagree. Andrea has been utterly supportive to our chapter. I'm frustrated that we're having this conversation.

Again, DISAGREE.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Roberta Ayala** on **October 19, 2016, 09:38:17 PM**

Disagree

Title: **This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **October 19, 2016, 09:41:00 PM**

AGREE  
Michael Haughey  
Jefferson County Green Party

It is unfortunate that a few responses to this vote and the previous agreement-seeking proposal have immediately jumped to accusations of racism and more. The attempt to label anyone who votes to agree with this proposal as racist or sexist is incredibly hypocritical.

The authors of this proposal are not racist. They are caring individuals who are trying to heal a rift in the Colorado Green Party. Some have been in the Green Party for decades selflessly advocating for all of the ten key values back when that alone was a radical concept. They have reviewed prior allegations about Bill and unaddressed allegations about Andrea. They are not making any judgment with this proposal about whether any of the allegations are true or false or some gray area in the middle. They believe a cooling off period is needed and that after that period new candidates as well as both Bill and Andrea should be allowed to put their hat in the ring for GPCO Co-Chair. They also believe that during that period there needs to be a serious attempt to heal the wounds and find ways to disagree without jumping to accusations of racism and sexism and recalls and sanctions. They believe that could be one of the primary roles of the interim Co-Chairs.

Lets be clear: it is not racist to disagree with someone who is LGBTQ, black, hispanic, asian, or any other race just because the person who disagrees is believed by the accuser to be a white male. Disagreements are a normal part of discussion.

Regarding the allegation that Bill threatened Andrea, Andrea declined to give her side on a conference call which had the purpose of discussing the allegations. The only "witness" is Jason who happens to be Andrea's partner. Jason's version of the "incident" differs substantially from Bill's version. People who know Bill do not believe the accusation. The concept that women must always be believed is seriously flawed. Witnesses are generally the least reliable kind of evidence. It is therefore one of those incidents where there is no proof. Many people, and disproportionately people of color, have been convicted of crimes based on witness accounts and then proven innocent when scientific evidence later became available (DNA). Memories change and are influenced by so, so many things both conscious and sub-conscious. It is known that Andrea and Bill had disagreements on policy/administration in the past. Regardless, a better response could have been an attempt at conflict resolution. Other than Andrea, Bill, and Jason, the rest of us do not know with any sufficient degree of certainty what happened. That is not sufficient cause for a recall. The situation does, however, lead to the reasonable suspicion that something else is going on.

Bill was also accused of being sexist for using the word "girl" on a facebook post in the context of "...the girls not getting their way". He was complaining that posts were deleted on Facebook (the GPCO page?) because the moderator was not getting her way. Had it been the other way around, would there be an accusation of sexism? It would be nice if posts on facebook were well thought out and maybe slept on before posting, but that is not how facebook works. Failure to respond immediately often misses the opportunity to reply at all. The conversation will have moved on, and if a popular thread or page, have moved so far down the page as to make a well-thought out reply totally impractical if not impossible. That is one reason that many of us do not "do facebook".

There are also serious allegations about Andrea's posts. Here is one example:  
 On Sept. 9, 2016 at 5:53, Andrea Mérida Cuéllar wrote: *"I am absolutely convinced that for the most part, the former Sanders supporter is not our target for recruitment into the Green Party. I just tabled at a "progressive" event in Albuquerque for the Green Party of New Mexico, and the people who were still waffling over whether to be a Green were NOT the two groups of working-class Latinas who are fighting neoliberal assaults on the community, with whom I had good, honest conversations.*  
*I qualify this by saying there is a difference between voting for Jill and becoming a registered Green Party member (where allowed). There are plenty of good people of good conscience who will be voting for Jill but at the end of the day are going to still "change the Democratic Party from within." All power to them, seriously.*  
*Our party, however, must be built with the working class, for whom the stakes are higher and the damage from capitalism is imminent. It must be from the frontline communities who are the first to suffer environmental racism, police brutality, poverty and homelessness. For others, being a Green is an academic exercise. For the rest of us, it's life or death.*  
*Let's be clear about the difference between simply voting for Jill and becoming a Green. There is a difference."*

There are also complaints regarding how Andrea has responded to persons expressing a different opinion. Here is one example from an e-mail to the Stein campaign:

Date: Wed, Sep 21, 2016 at 5:58 PM  
 Subject: Concerns  
 To: <jillstein2016co@gmail.com>

*To Whom it May Concern,*  
*I am writing today as a matter of conscience, and principle. I have found that typically there*

*is a sense, rightly felt, that it is dangerous to have opinions that differ from those opinions possessed by persons in power. I have found this to be true of my experience, and others with whom I am acquainted, have also had experiences when expressing opinions that differ from Miss Andrea Cuellar's personal paradigm.*

*Differing opinions held by party members should be regarded and considered by those in authority, and not thrown out and dismissed and the people expressing them put down and humiliated. Human opinion should be regarded, isn't that the whole point? No one person can know everything, and have all the answers. The Green Party as a party that supports the rights of whistle-blowers and opinions that dissent from the main stream should be inclusive. Members of the party should not have to be afraid of speaking out against Miss Andrea Cuellar. For having differing opinions they should not be harassed by her husband, or in other ways be retaliated against.*

*Me and several other Green Party members were considering leaving the party over Miss Andrea's hateful rhetoric on Facebook, and were only persuaded to stay in the party, because Mr. Bartlett took the time to be kind to us.*

*I believe that removing Mr. Bill Bartlett from his position would be detrimental to the social environment, and potential growth of the Green Party in Colorado. I believe this action is being taken in direct retaliation to what I perceive as his desire to heal the damage that exclusive rhetoric has had on the Party in state.*

*Regards,  
Elizabeth Thornton*

There is a disconnect between these words and what a few people are saying about all the support they have received from Andrea. Perhaps this warrants investigation.

There appear to be serious rifts in the GPCO about support for Bernie and about whether someone who does not spend all his/her time in support of racism and sexism issues in one particular way is a true "Green". There have been statements that essentially say that women can do no wrong and that persons of color cannot be racist - ever. The seriousness is underscored by the tone of the insults and accusations of racism and sexism. Keep in mind there are ten key values, not two. The Green Party has room for all of them. Like it or not, Andrea is in the middle of this. The sponsors of this proposal are very concerned and see the installation of interim co-chairs and a cooling-off period as a necessary step.

Since the rift in the GPCO is devolving into accusations about racism, it is probably a good time to consider the roots of the problem. Anthropologically speaking, humans have been fighting over resources and land since they crawled out of the trees, and other species do the same. There has historically been a demonization of "the other" as a justification for taking the resources of the other. The root problem is the sense of resource scarcity. A large part of that issue is the way in which money supply is created. Money is created out of thin air as debt owed, with interest, to the private entities that created it out of nothing. Paying back these debts requires an exponential expansion of economies whether there is an intrinsic need or not. When debt outpaces economic productivity, the result is an economic crash with the wealth of the poorest being transferred to the wealthiest. Thus the wealth gap increases. One solution, used historically, is violent revolution with power transferring to the next set of bullies. Another, advocated by the Green Party (using more words), is essentially to abolish the central banks. Then money becomes only what it should be - a medium of exchange, not a tool for extracting wealth. Public banking is a small step in that direction.

<p>Title: <b>Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.</b>  Post by: <b>Jason Justice</b> on <b>October 19, 2016, 10:39:43 PM</b></p>
--

Here is Andrea trying to tell folks what happened and here is Bill (violently) shutting her

down and you people doing nothing about it. Starts at 9:42 <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0ByNZ1Gqvs9d5cUtSaXF6MkFONXc/view> (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0ByNZ1Gqvs9d5cUtSaXF6MkFONXc/view>)  
Let's address the accusation with facts.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **John Anderson** on **October 19, 2016, 10:47:16 PM**

Disagree.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Angela Humphrey** on **October 20, 2016, 03:02:29 AM**

DISAGREE.

I fully back Joseph Scardetta's and Jason Justice's statements. This proposal seems to be a case of the white privileged members of this party to take their frustration out on Andrea for the recall and resignation of Bill Bartlett, whose recall I fully supported. Andrea is extremely important to the future of the Green Party in Colorado, and I find this proposal ridiculous if not childish, and a waste of time.

Angela Humphrey  
Denver Green Party

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Amanda "Tink" Trujillo** on **October 20, 2016, 09:39:18 AM**

Absolutely not. Former Dem here and originally a Bernie supporter. I've followed the Greens carefully for about a decade but did not make the switch until after moving to Denver and working with Andrea. I have had nothing but support from her (I'm a white woman, former Dem, former Bernie supporter, so none of the allegations listed hold true in my experience). I have watched Andrea encourage persons of all sexual identities, racial identities and education levels to fit in where they can get in. I'm with the Green party now because I believe strongly that the only way this country gets better is if we get beyond this patriarchal white supremacist capitalist system (after all, that is what I've read in the platform). I've seen the "offending" conversations on Facebook. Andrea stays on point with these values. That appears to difficult for some (most often white liberals) to handle. Is it because she is a woman with convictions? Yes. Is it because she is a Latina speaking truth? Yes. Quite frankly, I don't think they are ready for this party if they can't reflect on this sort of feedback and move towards the vision outlined in the platform. If these are the people the party is seeking to work with, I won't be around long. I'm not interested in being part of Dems 2.0.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Susan Hall** on **October 20, 2016, 10:54:53 AM**

Agree

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Sean Friend** on **October 20, 2016, 12:08:39 PM**

I'd first like to clarify the purpose of this proposal. The stated purpose - "call for election of both state Co Chair positions" - actually isn't possible, because we have an active co chair

Evidence

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and regular elections won't be held till the Annual Meeting next year. If this is intended to be a recall proposal to remove Andrea from her position, it would require a vote of 75%, not the 60% listed in this proposal. Please reference the bylaws, section 5.9: "If any officer or national representative is found to be in contempt of the goals of the Green Party of Colorado, recall proceedings shall be invoked. A three fourths majority of voting members present at a state meeting and/or the Council is required to achieve the recall of an officer." Section 4.3, which is referenced in the proposal, actually doesn't apply to this situation, since this is not a vote on policy, finance, or objectives, and this is not a state meeting where we would have regular elections.

This proposal appears to be out of order. Can the sponsors or the facilitator clarify, please? If it is a recall, the title and text of the proposal should be updated to reference the recall and the 75% threshold.

In case this is in fact a recall proposal, I vote Disagree. In my mind, Andrea has done nothing to show contempt for the goals of the state party, and has in fact been directly responsible for a great deal of the growth and level of organization we have achieved over the last few months. Aside from the multiple new chapters she has directly rebooted or started (including my own in Arapahoe that is currently mostly made up of former berners), we've seen our registrations statewide up by 50% and we are engaging with frontline communities at a much higher level than before she became co-chair. I see nothing in any of the items listed in the proposal that suggests Andrea has done anything that would violate any of our key values.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **October 20, 2016, 02:43:30 PM**

Sean, when I asked for clarification when posting this proposal by the sponsors, I was told it is *not* a recall proposal, which is why I didn't reference Section 5.9 of the Bylaws. I referenced 4.3 because, since this is not a recall proposal, it was the next best fit. Any other clarification will have to come from the sponsors of the proposal. If you think you can do a better job as facilitator, be my guest.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Sean Friend** on **October 20, 2016, 02:51:34 PM**

I wasn't trying to imply anything about your job as facilitator, just looking for clarification on what the exact nature and intent of this proposal was.

That said, if this isn't a recall proposal, it should be retracted or significantly reworked by the sponsors. You can't call for elections for a position that is already filled. Andrea has not resigned from her position and cannot be removed except by recall. If a recall proposal were submitted and passed by 75%, then a call for nominations and elections would be appropriate. We need to follow our bylaws, especially with something as important as this.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **davebell** on **October 20, 2016, 02:57:26 PM**

Disagree

In my experience, Andrea Mérida Cuéllar has been an invaluable asset as a leader of the State Party. While some locals were clamoring to support the candidacy of Bernie Sanders, Andrea was working to build a strong base to support The Green Party Presidential Candidate. In regards to Arn feeling unsupported, I'm not certain that he understands that



that effort by default, trickled down into his campaign by facilitating well attended campaign events where Arn was given a platform to speak to many voters at once. Andrea is a strong and highly effective leader, and we (Poudre Valley) would not be as strong as we are without her. She has helped us rebuild a local that was effectively dead by providing us with physical, intellectual, and historical resources, on a moments notice. She has driven up here to help us with events and participated in a few of our early reboot meetings.

Furthermore, I see the statement that you're citing as cause to remove Andrea from her post as one of the reasons that she is so effective. It actually proves that she is able to discern between a person that is moving to the Green Party to help us grow as opposed to a person who is moving to the party to protest DNC politics. There is a huge difference between these two types of people and it is important for our leadership to recognize that. In order to remake the society that we live in, we have got to get to work building an intersectional space where radical change can occur.

I believe that this proposal is lodged as retaliation for the recall against Bill. I would like to point out that that recall was proposed by Poudre Valley (Bill's local before Platte Valley was affiliated 2 weeks ago) and Arapahoe County, not Andrea. Worse, that you would try to conflate Nation Builder expenses and spending \$50 on a hotspot so that we could raise more than \$2,000 for our Presidential Candidate with referring to women as 'girls' and claiming that anti-white racism is real, is repulsive and inexcusable. Building this party is Andrea's job and that is exactly what she is doing. She is traveling the state and organizing at every level to make the Green Party a viable political organization for all people suffering under the boot of capitalism. I applaud Andrea for her strength and grace in the face of nearly constant adversity. Thank you for all you do Andrea Mérida Cuéllar.

To echo Sean's question, I wonder why the people who wrote this proposal chose to side step an actual recall vote?

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Jonathan Lullo** on **October 20, 2016, 03:33:55 PM**

disagree

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Karyna Lemus** on **October 20, 2016, 05:30:28 PM**

Disagree

Andrea has been extremely supportive to me and the Green Party of the Pikes Peak Region, which has also welcomed former Berners. As a woman of color, I personally believe that she is a breath of fresh air and more than qualified to lead the state party. I am glad that our party is finally becoming more inclusive and is actively supporting our most vulnerable communities. As far as the Facebook comments, I share her concerns that SOME former Berners may not be fully aligned with our 10 Key Values. This stems from several interactions where they have criticized Ajamu Baraka's past commentary on white supremacy, racist foreign policy, etc., and argued that he needs to "tone down his language" when it's really not up to them to tell the black community what language they should use to liberate themselves or to chastise them for their outrage when they have the right to be outraged. If racial justice is going to be a pillar of the Green Party platform, we need to ensure that we walk the walk and stand by our principles and that is why we had concerns that SOME former Dems might attempt to deradicalize us in an effort to make the Green Party "more viable" and "acceptable" to mainstream audiences (yes, some have suggested this). This does not mean that we should be unwelcoming, but rather, that we make sure that all members understand that our party is serious about challenging white supremacy,

capitalism, patriarchy, etc. Once again, this is not a generalization of all former Berners, but it is something that we need to address and discuss post-election. It IS possible to have these conversations while being 100% welcoming to those who share our values (we do it here in the Springs). Again, I disagree with the proposal and look forward to having a state-wide discussion with you all after November 8th.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Bob Kinsey** on **October 20, 2016, 06:29:40 PM**

Disagree for all the reasons stated by Karyna

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Kevin Alumbaugh** on **October 20, 2016, 08:09:46 PM**

AGREE

First of all this proposal is not erroneous and doesn't need to be retracted or reworked. Council members can propose anything they wish in a proposal from endorsements to bylaws changes and submit it to the state council for agreement seeking/voting. Of course this is about both policy and objectives. The proposal to remove Bill from office was called "Proposal to fill co chair vacancy" even though Bill hadn't been removed and hadn't resigned. This is a blatant double standard.

Proposal 07-16 was an attempt to heal a serious divide in the party by having interim co chairs who were not involved in the recent ugliness step in and transcend it in order to focus on the other more important issues like our candidates and A-69. The hypocrisy and double standards in some of these posts is staggering. This post by Ms. Garcia-Lock is unbelievable "We are all adults, why are we wasting time focusing on this when we have so many other things to worry about? When you go to work and don't like a co-worker or your boss do you campaign to get them fired? NO. Leave it at the door." Really?? Is this the approach that was taken with Bill Barlett? And as Bob Kinsey said today this entire episode starting with the proposal to remove Bill couldn't have waited until November 9th?

Mr. Justice. How dare you accuse the sponsors of this proposal of being white-privileged racists. I have been active in the GPCO and I have promoted the 10 key values for 10 years and I certainly don't need your validation. Donald Trump and David Duke are racists. The fact that you and others use the race card as a weapon against anyone who disagrees with you is despicable and you sir are awash in shame for using such a serious issue as a tool to achieve your nefarious goals. Your hypocrisy is stunning. Isn't racism at it's core about associating certain stereotypes and behaviors with an entire group of people or ethnic group? Yet it's OK for you to throw around terms like white-privileged, racist, and sexist about people you've never met or spoken with. You do a great disservice to your cause. And no one volunteers their time and energy to promote the Green Party and the 10KV as an "academic exercise" as Andrea has implied again assuming the motives of people because they happen to be Caucasian.

And as far as scurrilous lies are concerned you once again accuse Bill of something he didn't do. All of you who have jumped on this band wagon shame on you. Bill was asked if he threatened Andrea and he disputed the claim. You say you stepped in front of him before he had a chance to take a swing at Andrea. You could say that about anyone who was within three feet of her. How convenient that the main argument for removing Bill was an incident that can't be proven and is your word against his. The version that Bill related to me was that he was trying to help you take items to your car and talk to you but you were both hostile to him and he said that was f'ed up. I have known Bill for many years. I don't know you. Someone is lying. So I can only conclude you are lying. Anyone who wasn't

there has no right to assume you are telling the truth and Bill is lying. And as far as the conference call is concerned anyone who actually listens to it will hear that Bill and Andrea were both talking over each other as can happen in an intense conversation. There was an obvious lull where she had an opportunity to speak but she conveniently hung up so she didn't have to actually address the issue. For anyone to assert that Bill used "violent language" is absurd.

So here we are bickering like spoiled brats at this critical time. So much for trying to heal a wound and bridge the divide and pursue conflict resolution. It's time to get this out in the open.

Andrea Merida Cuellar is attempting to take control of the Green Party of Colorado. She has demonstrated a pattern of starting local chapters and hand picking state council reps who are in lock step with her. You only need to look at the history of the way the chapters she has created have voted. And she has also demonstrated time and time again a pattern of retaliating against people who disagree with her with hostile communications and accusations in emails, Facebook posts, and in social media. And this is undoubtedly why there was a proposal to remove Bill. Do the people who backed that proposal really expect us to believe that she wasn't pulling the strings behind the scenes? Nothing goes on in the GPCO without her involvement. Do you really think we can't see through the good cop/bad cop nonsense where she keeps her nose clean but sends out the attack dogs to do the dirty work? Please! Her M O is obvious. Create a power base and stack the deck against anyone and any local chapters that aren't in lock step. If she creates enough of a power base she can exercise total control of the party by means of a majority of people in her camp on the state council. Deny it.

Many former Bernie supporters and disgruntled Democrats have reached out to me about her hostility towards them and have related similar stories from other people they know. I'm sure every local is experiencing an influx of Berners and former Dems as is the Greater Boulder chapter. But the many examples of her propensity to alienate many of them is inexcusable. This is the greatest opportunity for growth the GPCO has ever seen and to alienate even one potentially active Green is incomprehensible! Our Green registration numbers are up despite her not because of her.

Every Colorado Green should be suspicious of Andrea's motives. Why did the proposal to remove Bill surface when it did (don't deny she was behind it). It has completely distracted the entire party from the elections. Why did she stifle the proposal to endorse A-69 when many chapters supported it as well as our amazing U.S. Senate candidate, Arn Menconi, and our presidential candidate Jill Stein? Why has she chosen to pick fights with Arn rather than find some kind of common ground? Why have council members from Boulder including our co chair Carolyn Brninski and council members from the Jeffco Greens not been able to get access to the Forum? Why have many new members been added to the state council without notifying our council facilitator Brittany Hoover? People have been voting without even an indication of what local they belong to which should disqualify their vote. Why did Andrea single-handedly redesign the state web site with no input from the web site committee or co chair? Why are the two domain names the GPCO owns on her private server and not on a state account accessible to the web site committee? Wake up people.

Anyone who tries to exercise control over a political party is toxic to that party. The position of co chair is not a position of authority and no one who serves in that position has a right to act unilaterally on any issue. The GPCO is in a state of total disfunction at this time and this will not change as long as Andrea is co chair. If she cares about the GPCO more than her own agenda she will step down like Bill did so that we can function as a political party instead of bunch of spoiled brats.

Kevin Alumbaugh

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**

Post by: **Meral Sarper** on **October 20, 2016, 09:01:20 PM**

DISAGREE. I am new, but Andrea has been great to work with and is doing a great job. We shouldn't make more work than we need. I do agree we need to fill the vacant spot, so why not just do a re-election for only the vacant spot?

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**

Post by: **Nancy York** on **October 20, 2016, 09:25:34 PM**

disagree

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**

Post by: **kcterry** on **October 21, 2016, 11:10:21 AM**

Disagree.

I have been so pleased with Andrea's work in her role that I personally feel that losing her even for a short time would be a huge hinderance for us, a disservice to her personally and a repudiation of all the amazing work she has been doing for the party.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **October 21, 2016, 02:44:15 PM**

I wanted to address some of the allegations in the proposal, for everyone's information. I apologize that this post will be quite long.

#### **WEBSITE**

In 2014, the members of the website committee consisted of Bill, Harry Hempy and myself. Harry resigned to run for governor, and the committee was only Bill and myself. Keep in mind that I was not state co-chair then, and the responsibility of appointing new members was Bill's, not mine.

In 2015, Bill and I discussed moving the website to his hosting company and also tranferring the ownership of the domain "coloradogreenparty.org." The website up to that point was being paid for by Kevin Alumbaugh's wife, Liz Hamilton, as an unrecorded in-kind donation. Because we were not able to add email accounts and otherwise manage the website because we didn't have access to all the website controls, we decided to ask Liz to transfer ownership of the domain. Also, since the hosting was going to be more than \$100 a month, Bill and I agreed that that expense was too high, especially since both he and I have our own shared hosting spaces where we could host for free for the time being.

Bill and I discussed a few ideas, like setting up a shared hosting site where locals could have their hosting space together, splitting up the cost cooperatively. We decided that Bill should host the website on his hosting space. The first step was to ask Liz to transfer ownership of the domain.

After weeks of waiting for Bill to ask, I went ahead and asked Liz myself, but I asked her to transfer it directly to Bill, not to me. See the attached file "GPCO domain transfer" for those details.

Bill was still unresponsive, and I finally asked her to transfer the domain to me. That's why it's presently registered to me.

Bill was supposed to set up a hosting space on his own server for the website. He attempted to do so, but apparently it was not done correctly, and a crisis situation emerged, because the state party website was now down over an election weekend, and Bill had gone out of town and was incommunicado.

To rectify the situation, I went ahead and rebuilt the website on my hosting account, and that's where it still resides today. You can see documentation of that situation in the two attachments called "GPCO Website Login info."

Understand that at no point did I make any unilateral decisions, and at no point was Bill not apprised of the situation.

### **HOTSPOT**

Because the Mercury Cafe in Denver does not have WiFi, and because we had to process donations through Jill's website, keeping in mind compliance directives from her campaign, I decided to get a mobile WiFi hotspot from Boost Mobile. The cost for the device itself was \$125, which I paid for, and the data plan for it was \$50 a month. The state party paid \$50 only for one month's service. I have continued to pay for subsequent months of service, though I have been using it for state party business where needed. As Dave Bell pointed out in a previous post, we raised more than \$2000 for the campaign because we were able to be connected to the internet.

Below is a link to a screen shot of the banking transactions for the last 90 days so that you can see there was only one charge of \$50 since getting the device in July.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0ByNZ1Gqvs9d5Y0V3cEV2QjMtbDg>  
(<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0ByNZ1Gqvs9d5Y0V3cEV2QjMtbDg>)

### **NATIONBUILDER**

Laura Clark had been paying for Nationbuilder for over a year at a rate of \$28 a month. Bill had done some initial work, uploading a portion of the voter database for Greeley. Keep in mind that this account was launched before I became co-chair in May 2015. But Laura was paying for a database that was not being used.

Laura decided she was no longer going to pay for the account personally, and so the billing was transferred to the state party. You all voted to approve the expenditure of \$28 a month at the state meeting in May 2015, and a couple of you pledged to help pay for it, though those pledges have never materialized.

Later, after I became co-chair, Bill and I agreed to expand the capabilities of Nationbuilder so that we could send out more email blasts, robocalls and text blasts. Keep in mind also that Nationbuilder's cost expands with the number of records in your database, and we're approaching 15k contacts, and that we currently have more than 12, 000 registered Greens as of now. That cost is now \$108 a month, and with the expanded features, we have reached a few thousand Greens, created phone banking lists that many of you have used, including Boulder, Mesa, Denver and Poudre. We have used the robocall and text blast capabilities to announce Jill's event in Boulder; to announce chapter meetings and launches for Pueblo, Platte Valley, Mesa, Avon, Longmont, Adams, Pikes Peak and Denver.

We have to pay separately to run the robocalls, but it's always less than \$10 per shot. It's an infinitely cheaper way than even postcards to reach many, many voters in one fell swoop, and it helps party activists stretch out their time to focus on other things.

Below is a screen shot from Nationbuilder that shows the cost and some of the features.

**The cost of Nationbuilder is currently being supported by donations.**

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0ByNZ1Gqvs9d5aHFjUnhodzNNMFE>

(<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0ByNZ1Gqvs9d5aHFjUnhodzNNMFE>)

Going forward, my recommendation will be for us to pay up front for a whole year of service, which will reduce our cost to \$70.20 a month. Keep your eyes peeled for that proposal, because the bylaws only permit co-chairs to spend less than \$200 a month without council approval.

### OTHER ISSUES

There seem to be quite a bit of distress around my personal opinion about finding the right prospects for partybuilding from among Sanders supporters. But just as Michael Haughey is apparently free to openly advocate for Green nomination of Bernie Sanders as late as the People's Fair in June (and within the Jeffco meetings), then I too can have an opinion about who really is the right prospect for us. Each of us have our own opinion, and I am entitled to mine as you are to yours. I have never offered that my opinion is the state party position, however.

Additionally, I want to call out the elephant in the room, and that's the distress over my personal opinion, which I have shared with many of you, about Amendment 69. I am on the record as personally being opposed. That is offensive to some of you. However, I have never represented my personal opinion as the state opinion, I have never blocked any proposal brought forward, nor have I ever coerced anyone to take on my opinion. Of note is that many of the people who disagree with this proposal are actually Amendment 69 supporters...and even more to the point, the co-sponsors of the previous recall petition include a chapter that has voted to endorse 69.

It would appear that some of you have vastly different opinions than me on at least a couple different material issues. I have not slandered any of you over it, however.

### RACISM

There is an updated sociological definition of racism, that goes beyond an anthropological human trait or simple feelings or speech that is bigoted. Instead, racial justice activists recognize that **RACISM = BIGOTRY + POWER**. It's easier to understand it as "institutional racism." Here's an older article with some insight on this.

<http://everydayfeminism.com/2013/08/racist-against-white-people/>  
(<http://everydayfeminism.com/2013/08/racist-against-white-people/>)

People who use bigoted speech are therefore not racists if they are people of color. Their speech cannot be used to curtail a white person's rights or access to jobs or positions. It is entirely possible for a person of color to be bigoted, however.

It is time to update our definition of what racism actually is and to begin to scrutinize whether we are creating a welcoming space for people of color (and all other oppressed communities) to come and build up electoral and movement power together in the Green Party. I can tell you that we don't have that yet. The hue and cry over my controversial (to some) opinions, which are not binding, is just an indicator. The fact that Kevin has assigned me superhuman mastermind powers over intelligent, free-thinking (largely white) individuals, without considering that they are actively anti-racist in their own right, is another. Yet another is the failure of the proposal proponents to afford me any due process at all.

It is very easy to uphold white supremacy, even as a person of color. There is more information on that here, and I invite you all to read and absorb. <http://www.alternet.org/civil-liberties/10-things-everyone-should-know-about-white-supremacy>  
(<http://www.alternet.org/civil-liberties/10-things-everyone-should-know-about-white-supremacy>)

Several of us in the party are working on some workshops for our party that everyone will

be invited to participate. I hope that everyone on the state council takes the time to open their minds and learn a bit more about how to open up our party.

### IN CLOSING

At the end of the day, you all need to hear that I am not going to resign, and except for issues with health or work, I intend to run for reelection. So that means that we're in this together, at least for several more months. It is true that I am a religious person; I am a practicing Roman Catholic, and that means that forgiveness is my mandate. What that means to you is that you will continue to be treated with respect, if not always docility. There is excellent roundabout critique here, and in response, my further commitment to you is that you will get more communication about the way things are happening, regardless of my wish to help others save face, and that you will get copies of bank statements posted here with explanation of expenditures, whether we have a treasurer or not. I will take on that responsibility.

We're in this together, folks. Let's try to make the best of it. You are right that we have an opportunity to bring on more members, and I intent to keep recruiting the best options from the former Sanders supporters, as well as continuing to bring on more and more recruits from oppressed communities. I continue to work hard fulfilling YOUR mandate from when I was elected co-chair, which was to build this into an electoral party and run candidates.

What's your commitment to this process?

Solidarity,

Andrea Merida Cuellar  
Co-Chair

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **October 22, 2016, 02:41:53 PM**

I can understand why so many folks are posting about how nice Andrea is. Just to be clear, I hold no malice toward Andrea. I do think her style of off-hand insults and un-truths is a serious problem (I worry that there is more than just that going on) – and before you get defensive, I will give a few personal examples. I do not know if it is intentional, or just one of those personality quirks that many of us have. For now I think it is a serious enough problem to warrant the cooling off period that this proposal advocates. I worked a couple shifts in the GPCO booth at the People's Fair on Sunday, June 5, 2016 in the hot sun, and one shift was with just Andrea. There were times when we had no visitors and we had pleasant conversations. We talked about how Bernie Sanders would make a great addition to the Green Party ticket. Andrea and I had been on different sides of that discussion, so it was good to hear that she was evolving. Then I read her post on this proposal for a cooling off period and she makes a side comment about me that seems innocuous on the surface:

*"But just as Michael Haughey is apparently free to openly advocate for Green nomination of Bernie Sanders as late as the People's Fair in June (and within the Jeffco meetings), ..."* but that is not the truth. We had only a private discussion. Her words give an image of a person running around the people's fair in a green party t-shirt and wearing co-chair button waving a Bernie sign with a Democratic party logo. That is simply not true. In any discussions with Greens I am very careful to frame my personal opinions as just that – personal opinions. It seems minor and silly by itself, but it does not stand alone as I'll get to shortly. Not only that, notice the insinuation *"as late as the People's Fair in June"*. The Green Party convention was August 5 – 7, so Jill was not even the official candidate until August 7, a full two months later. Prior to the People's Fair (this "discussion" started in

early 2015) there was a "movement" in the GPCO including Andrea and others to try to outlaw any co-chair taking any position in favor of Bernie even in their own personal conversations having nothing to do with the GreenParty. That opinion was aggressively put forth in our local chapter meetings by at least one individual who vehemently denied that Jill had made any overture to Bernie. I stood up to that as much on principle as anything else. No-one gets to tell me what to think. Period. What happened? Look at bylaws amendment proposal 008-15, which passed. It was mis-leadingly titled "*Chapter Accreditation*". It included, under items a "*Green Local must agree to*": "*Openly support only the national candidates selected by Green convention, state level candidates nominated at a Green Party of Colorado nominating convention, and local candidates selected with the criteria specified in sections 4.5.4 and 4.5.5 of these bylaws.*" It seems innocent enough, but look at what is happening now (as I predicted in my disagree vote). I am accused of "open support..." (for Bernie).

As it turns out in this particular discussion (about asking Bernie to join the Green ticket) I am vindicated – Jill Stein invited Bernie to join the Green Party presidential ticket and even offered him the top position on the ticket. For me it goes much, much deeper. I began my liberalization and understanding that the "system" has serious problems back in the 1960's before I was even a teenager. I've been an environmentalist and advocate for equality and more ever since. In all those years we couldn't even dream of a candidate as good as Bernie, and then he gradually emerged and was courted by the Greens in previous elections. He declined then and he declined now, but he is still Bernie. I am sad that he is stumping for the corporate candidate, but perhaps I'll get over that in time.

There is more. In a recent e-mail that Andrea sent to another member of the JC Greens (forwarded to me by that person) she included "*I have bent over backward to assist you, communicate, loop you in when Michael would not.*" and "*You might start by advocating for democracy within the Jeffco chapter and calling for co-chair elections as you committed to do.*" That is two digs that are not true. I have not kept this person "out of the loop". In fact I was never included in whatever "loop" to which Andrea might have been referring. I have been very pro-active in including any information I have in the monthly meeting e-mail invites and more. The second one about elections is even more perplexing. I agreed to keep the Adams-Jeffco Greens alive by becoming the chair starting in January 2012 when literally NO-ONE else would. I was nominated, and I was elected unanimously at the next meeting. It was me or the chapter dies. Simple as that. We have had an election for chair and then later co-chair every year. We followed that process every year, sending out a plea for individuals to volunteer and to run for a position. Each year there were NO OTHER CANDIDATES and I was elected unanimously with no abstentions. On November 17, 2014 Larry Dunn volunteered (put up by Andrea) to re-join the Adams-Jeffco Chapter and become a co-chair, and he expressed his opinion at that time that eventually Adams and JeffCo would need to be split up. In retrospect, that is now very interesting (and yes – I have e-mail documentation). Since we were barely scraping by as one chapter, a split would have been difficult at that time, which Larry and I both acknowledged. Larry did not show up at the next meeting, in December 2014. In fact he did not show up for over a year (no judgement here – he had good personal reasons). During that time we had discussions about our chapter bylaws (which took quite some time to find). Rachel served as our Secretary for part of that time. We updated and adopted bylaws revisions on January 12, 2015, and that included provisions for a co-chair, but still no volunteer for the position. Larry next came to a meeting on March 9, 2015 and was welcomed with open arms. Larry offered again to be co-chair prior to the June meeting and was elected unanimously as a co-chair on June 8, 2015. At our June 13, 2016 meeting Larry made a motion to split and form an Adams chapter. That motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions. So where did this rumor start that the AJ Greens/JC Greens are not having elections?

I still hold no ill-will toward Andrea, although she is making that difficult. I don't know her motives, if any. But I re-iterate that the GPCO has a serious problem as a result of her words and actions. I think some conflict-resolution during the proposed cooling off period



could be beneficial.

At least one statement in Andreas post need to be corrected, and it is serious because of our limited funds and that fact that the GPCO is supposed to be a democracy: the statement that a co-chair has authorization to spend up to \$200. This is what the bylaws say:

*"4.2.3. The Council sets the agenda for the state meetings, decides on issues needing expedient attention between state meetings, handles administrative tasks, and acts as representative to the press on state issues, as well as representing the Green Party of Colorado to groups interested in establishing locals where none exist. The Council can make appropriations from the GPCO bank account of \$200 per item or less by a 60% vote of the Council, in consultation with the Treasurer to insure availability of funds. Expenditures above \$200 per item require consensus of the Council or a 60% vote at a state meeting."*

The council, not the co-chair, can approve expenditures on consultation with the treasurer and upon a vote for items less than \$200. More than \$200 requires consensus or a vote of the membership at a state meeting. No co-chair, no one person, has this authority. If there is a good reason to make an expense, make a case to the council and run it by the treasurer to confirm the impact on our funds (they are VERY limited). That is how this democracy works.

If there are other statements that need correcting, hopefully someone else will post to correct them.

The opinion on the definition of racism is an interesting intellectual discussion, but far from reality. The justification is that *"racial justice activists recognize that RACISM = BIGOTRY + POWER."* "Racial justice advocates"? This view seems really convenient. A person of color can now be racist but is immune from being called racist because of his/her race status? And because of that ONLY whites can be racist? Sorry – don't buy it. It has too many flaws. For just one, not only whites are in position of power. For another, to fear or denigrate all whites because of a mistaken belief that they all hold power is itself racist and incorrect. Not only that – it is incredibly insulting and libelous to those of us who have advocated, fought, and put ourselves at personal and professional risk (and lost jobs, friends, loved ones, and opportunities) BECAUSE of our advocacy for equality. Regardless, using the term racist as a weapon against anyone who disagrees, to call someone a racist for agreeing to this proposal, is disgraceful. Andrea's statement in her post that all of us who are white are *"actively anti-racist in their own right"* is absurd and anything but healing. That is treating us with respect???

All it takes for bad ideas to triumph is for good people to remain silent.

Michael Haughey  
JC Greens

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **October 22, 2016, 02:52:04 PM**

Michael, let me quote the bylaws for you, even though you did vote no on this:

Quote

III. Membership  
3.1 A Green Local must agree to:  
\* Accept the Ten Key Values and to manage the chapter in accordance with those values.  
\* Abide by the bylaws of the Green Party of Colorado.  
\* Openly support only the national candidates selected by Green convention, state level candidates nominated at a

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Green Party of Colorado nominating convention, and local candidates selected with the criteria specified in sections 4.5.4 and 4.5.5 of these bylaws.

- \* Make a good faith effort, where reasonable, to increase the number of Green voter registrations within the boundaries of their chapter.
- \* Make a good faith effort to run state and local candidates.
- \* Make a good faith effort to increase the number of qualified voting members within their chapter.
- \* Make a good faith effort to fundraise for the operation of their chapter and to assist in the operation of the Green Party of Colorado.
- \* Demonstrate evidence of commitment to, and good faith efforts to achieve, gender balance in party leadership and representation.
- \* Demonstrate evidence of good faith efforts to empower individuals and groups from oppressed communities, through, for example, leadership responsibilities, identity caucuses and alliances with community-based organizations, and endorsements of issues and policies.

Chapter officers and council representatives must not have been registered as a member of a political party other than the Green Party of Colorado for at least thirty days before nomination and must maintain registration as a Green Party of Colorado voter throughout the duration of the officer's/representative's term.

A Green local must present its proposed bylaws for approval, and be approved by 60% of the voting Greens at a state party meeting, or by the state council.

So this isn't a question of my evolution. It's a question of being faithful to the bylaws, as well as to our requirements for accreditation with GPUS.

This is a fundamental issue: **is the Green Party an autonomous, independent electoral party separate from the Democratic Party, or not?** If so, then we should not be concerned with other parties' nominees.

My position is not changed. Neither has yours. And I understand you have a different opinion on this.

It is my position as well that if your loyalties are split, then there is no way you can grow your own local.

But this isn't material to the proposal on the floor. It's an important discussion that we're going to have later, however.

Title: **This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**

Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **October 22, 2016, 03:12:08 PM**

Now you are just being insulting. I read the amendment. I object to the vague and open-to-interpretation "Demonstrate evidence of" and the long list of chapter requirements that are impossible for a small chapter. There was no "agreement-seeking" in the sense of making good faith efforts to find consensus in the wording. My objections were simply ignored. And I did vote. My vote was "Do not agree as worded". My full post was:

*"Do not agree as worded. Too much micro-managing. All the good faith efforts require time that some chapter volunteers/officers do not have. Also, the statement to support "only..." could be interpreted to apply to issues as well. It also does not address supporting other party candidates when there is no Green Party candidate for a particular office.*

*I think it needs work before voting. As worded I would vote no.*

*Michael Haughey*

*AJ Greens"*

Michael

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **October 22, 2016, 03:13:46 PM**

No, I don't mean to be insulting at all. I'm simply recognizing that you were not in support, and when you say "do not agree as worded," and given that you did not present an

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amendment, I have to conclude that you didn't agree.

If I misread your intention from your words, I apologize.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Art Goodtimes** on **October 22, 2016, 07:59:39 PM**

this brouhaha seems very confusing for chapters far from the front range. instead of a forum for voting, this thread appears to be a forum for presenting opposing sides of a rift in the party. and the accusations of racism against those who are in favor of the proposal seems to make it a losing proposition however one votes.

so, san miguel greens abstain on this proposal for now.

artg

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Scott Lupo** on **October 23, 2016, 12:34:50 PM**

Last post didn't format correctly. One thing is for sure: there is a huge rift in this party. I too hold no malice or ill-will towards Andrea but I do see an increase in anger and emotionally filled comments from her, including a message she sent to me that was insulting and disparaging to my character. However, passion is not always a bad thing, if directed properly. I understand that Andrea is passionate about racial and social equality. Any number of comments on Facebook, emails, conference calls, or personal meetings will attest to that. However, it is not the only issue our party holds dear and it's not the only issue that deserves our focus. We have people who are passionate about the environment, passionate about peace and ending the endless wars, passionate about animal cruelty, passionate about feeding the homeless every Friday night in Denver, etc. The big difference is that nobody else is using their passion as weapons against their own party members or to those that would like to join our party. This is what's happening right now.

Using racial epithets against others is a slippery slope and almost always ends any rational discussion thereafter. Also, using the same weapon over and over again only dulls that weapon to uselessness. Words matter and if you continually use those words for everything or everyone you disagree with, eventually those words will lose all meaning. It seems to me there are many out there more interested in labeling others in their own party than having a discussion about it. How ironic for a party that espouses community building, openness, and equality. Fight for your passion but not at the expense of your own party members or at the behest of one of the party members you look up to. Be a teacher not a preacher. Don't go so far left that you end up on the right which I feel is what is happening. Please don't turn this into a Green version of McCarthyism. What makes the Green Party different is that members think critically and deeply to make their own decision, not emotionally and blindly to another person's agenda. That's why I joined because it's the only place I've found that I can have amazingly deep and cogent conversations, be politically active, and be a part of something bigger than myself.

I'll give credit to Andrea for taking a lead position and attempting to build our party, which was our mandate as a party. However, quantity should not be the most important measurement. We have many new members who have been recruited by Andrea and share her passion for racial and social equality as the number one issue, the majority of them in newly formed chapters. What surprises me is that the majority of these same individuals, ones who haven't been in our party for more than a year, decided to recall a long time champion of Green Party values, the majority without explanation! So you join a political party after disliking the previous establishment one, join hands with one co-chair and then go after the other? This very much feels like a coterie led by Andrea. Maybe it's not, but it

sure is suspicious when the recall could have waited until after the election.

I don't feel comfortable with the new direction of the party by only focusing on one or two key values and then using them against their own party members. There has to be some discussion on our focus, mission, sensitivity to others, and racism. I don't believe electing interim co-chairs will solve this or bridge us to that point. I prefer no co-chairs until out next annual meeting. Personally I wish Andrea will consider stepping down so we can begin a healing process and then decide later who we want to lead us. Reading her previous comments I understand this is unlikely to happen. However, I believe it is the right move and Agree with this proposal.

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **John Wontrobski** on **October 24, 2016, 11:02:10 AM**

I've been mulling this one over since I first read it, and was no closer to a decision on how to vote, but having read Art's comments, I agree wholeheartedly.

I vote Abstain.

John Wontrobski, Council Member  
San Miguel Greens

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Greg Marsh** on **October 24, 2016, 01:08:08 PM**

I agree. I don't see a significant rift. I guess I have a thick skin and see many of you all as newbies who didn't get involved in the D&D of the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant SuperFund Mega-Site - which still hasn't been cleaned up. Is this an issue for the GP?

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Kevin Alumbaugh** on **October 25, 2016, 02:57:20 PM**

I don't want to circumvent the process here but it looks pretty certain that this proposal will not pass and if I'm not mistaken the week of voting will be over after tomorrow. Can we call a truce in the interest of a get out the vote effort since the election is only two weeks away? I would like to revive the nomination process for the co chair vacancy as well and I have nominated Arn Menconi on the private council discussion page.

Andrea can we get an update on Jill's campaign since you're the Southwest campaign manager? Are there any events in the works for Jill's campaign or for our Colorado candidates? Can we get calling lists from Nationbuilder? Myself, Carolyn Bninski, Susan Hall, and Tom Hall have done phone banking recently and I'm sure we would all be willing to make more calls if we could get new lists.

Thank you.

Kevin Alumbaugh

Title: **Re: This is Proposal 007-16: Call for election of both state Co Chair positions.**  
Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **October 27, 2016, 02:40:52 PM**

The voting period has ended and the proposal has failed. Thank you to everyone who sent Evidence

me updated chapter council members and their contact info! If you haven't already, please email me with which chapter you represent and your email address so that I can add it to my record. My email is [Brittany.HooverATC@gmail.com](mailto:Brittany.HooverATC@gmail.com). I will post the official voting record shortly.

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## Evidence Group Appendix B: Attacking Dissenters

## Posts from Friends and Groups

**Arn Menconi**

October 2 at 2:01pm ·

The Green Party in Colorado has devolved into a power struggle for nothing while the issues for Coloradans to increase minimum wage, universal healthcare, antifracking measures and candidates like [Robert Lee Worthey](#) [Jenice JJ Dove](#) and myself go undressed.

I've seen this happen before in politics and we've seen it with Debbie Wasserman Schultz and Hillary. The Colorado Green Party's Co Chair will come after me next through other people who have no clue what is happening.

I'll stand by what I've done to further the cause. All anyone has to do is look at what hasn't happened to growing the Green Party, working for Progressive ballot initiatives and candidates while wanting to recall a Co Chair instead of working for truth and justice.

After this election is over I'll be [#GreenExit](#) ing and continuing to do the work that I've stood by for the past 25 years for voices that aren't being heard.

If you don't like the job I've done as a candidate regarding what is really happening in our country as to how we are being lied to death by endless wars, global warming, inequality gap, racial injustice through the hands of the Global Corporate Mafia, I'll step down now and continue the fight for Jeffrey Sterling who's dying in a jail.

I'm certainly imperfect but as I've taught SOS kids, "don't let your imperfections stop you from fighting for others."

The silence speaks volumes. I can't fight for many with others who are fighting each day, but I won't fight for those that are fighting for themselves.

Now I'm going back to the few hours left I have for my kids before I don't have them for two week.

Remember to fight for Truth Justice and I forgot the third one:)

Bill Bartlett, Jodee Brekke and 45 others

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**Kim Sayers** Don't be discouraged. And I hope you don't really leave. Growing pains. They're a bitch.

Like · Reply · 5 · October 2 at 2:06pm



**Arn Menconi** I'm not discouraged.. I've been fighting for years. Don't hate the

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2014

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battles 14 years later.

Like · Reply · 6 · October 2 at 2:11pm



Write a reply...



**Arn Menconi** Years from now we'll be judged by our fight not whether it's uncomfortable.

Like · Reply · 4 · October 2 at 2:10pm · Edited



**Arn Menconi** This whole election has turned into a soap opera national inquirer story instead of the issues. It's were this country is going.

Like · Reply · 8 · October 2 at 2:11pm



**Kapitän Niklas Stephenson** Sorry to see your discontent. That's always a bad thing to see and observe. But I do know that you will channel that discontent into more energy that actually matters. There is more need for inspiring "fighters" on the street for every day struggles, r... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 4 · October 2 at 2:14pm · Edited



**Arn Menconi** **Kapitän Niklas Stephenson** There's these two snails fighting and the cops break it up. There's a turtle who saw the whole thing. The cop asked the turtle, "can you tell me which snail started the fight?" The turtle said, "I don't know it all happened so fast." My job is to see the punches coming in slow motion and move the movement further.

Like · Reply · 2 · October 2 at 2:15pm

[View more replies](#)



Write a reply...



**Kim Sayers** I call it Kabuki Theater for Potemkin Villagers.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 2 at 2:11pm



**Arn Menconi** You want a joke? I'll make one. There's these two snails fighting and the cops break it up. There's a turtle who saw the whole thing. The cop asked the turtle, "can you tell me which snail started the fight?" The turtle said, "I don't know it all happened so fast." My job is to see the punches coming in slow motion and move the movement further.

Like · Reply · 6 · October 2 at 2:15pm · Edited



**Joan Hager** You may forget the third one but you are still Superman

Like · Reply · 2 · October 2 at 2:25pm



**Lynne Van Bebber Rerucha** The deeper I've gotten into any sort of activism, the more I've seen the goofy stuff that seems to get in the way of the very fight. Some, who I'll call it..."sell out", or find fame or power, rage against the purists, while the purists are literally scratching their heads at what on earth would make the selling out seem like a good idea. And then there are the methods... SIGH... dang, unpredictable humans anyway.

Like · Reply · 2 · October 2 at 2:27pm



**Arn Menconi** Guys this is normal. That's not the problem.

Like · Reply · 2 · October 2 at 2:3

Chat (Off)

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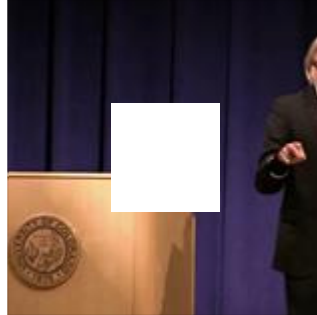
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Choose a Date



**Arn Menconi** Hope you enjoy the show. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HvL\\_YPuDU2k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HvL_YPuDU2k)



Arn Menconi CU Boulder For Jill Stein

YOUTUBE.COM

Like · Reply · 2 · October 2 at 2:38pm



**Joan Hager** As Arn says - this is normal -- Those who try to turn our faces to the truth face barriers - many times by those supposedly on the same side - maybe not intentional barriers but barriers none the less. There are so many serious problems facing us, we need to prioritize, folks.

Like · Reply · October 2 at 2:41pm



**Evan Ravitz** I exited the CO green party some fifteen years ago when one of its stars was against direct democracy. In my 27 years researching and promoting it I found that somewhat more intelligent people think they should rule the world, while truly wise and smar... [See More](#)



Endorsers of the National Initiative

Patch Adams, MD (Founder, Gesundheit Institute; subject of 1998 hit film Patch Adams)

EVANRAVITZ.COM

Like · Reply · 4 · October 2 at 2:49pm



**David L Axtell** Evan four should be for...

Like · Reply · October 2 at 3:44pm



**Evan Ravitz** Yes, I'm using voice to speech

Like · Reply · October 2 at 4:00pm

[View more replies](#)



Write a reply...



**Arn Menconi** A lot of this is about amendment 69 for me and the BS around it. I want a party to stand up for healthcare for or state. Not supporting it causes too many problems for everyone who is poor and working class. Vote Yes on ColoradoCare Yes

Like · Reply · 16 · October 2 at 3:16pm



**Frank Sturgell** I've been using the Debbie Wassermann Schultz comparison to the co-chair before your candidacy. The similarities are very eery.

Like · Reply · 3 · October 2 at 3:30pm



**Connor Reilly** Whoa are you leaving state party?

Chat (Off)

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Like · Reply · 2 · October 2 at 5:15pm · Edited



**Arn Menconi** If it was just about that [Darren O'Connor](#) I wouldn't put go this far if it was only about how poorly 69 has been handled. But what is suppose to happen to the 1 in 5 without health insurance? Do you realize some of the same people are against raising the minimum wage because it's not enough. When will they stand up after November 9th. It took til yesterday to come out against Amendment 71.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 2 at 8:04pm



**Darren O'Connor** Thanks for the feedback Arn. I know this shit can be disheartening and appreciate how much of yourself you've put into running for Senate.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 2 at 9:21pm



Write a reply...



**Laurie Lambe** I support you all the way Arn! I am voting Yes on 69! Please everyone, tell all your friends and family about Arn. Everyone seems quite interested in finding out about him. [Except the terrified and sheepy Dems]

Like · Reply · 5 · October 2 at 5:50pm



**Rob Smoke** [Arn Menconi](#) -- as far as I'm concerned, you are a standout as a senate candidate. Of course, the opposition is miserable, but I think you would be good against any group.

Like · Reply · 4 · October 2 at 6:18pm



**Joshua Tree** Heya Arn, I read your post and I wanted to say that I think your voice is necessary in the Green Party and I hope you stay - we need people with your energy, direction and leadership qualities necessary to be a candidate who has mainstream appeal and ... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 2 · October 2 at 8:36pm



I understand Arn's frustration. It has even affected my desire to campaign for Jill, since the person in question is part of her campaign staff. Now I know why so many of my friends have left the Greens. Those [#BitterGreens](#) make the Colorado Green Party seriously toxic.

Like · Reply · October 3 at 1:08pm · Edited



**Joshua Tree** I'll be honest in stating that I've had nothing but positive experiences with everyone I've met in the Green Party, but I have been paying nearly zero attention to our local party politics as I have been volunteering all of my extra hours towards volun... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 1 · October 3 at 1:45pm



Write a reply...



**Leslie Eiler** I sent you \$10 out of my grocery budget earlier today, but wish that I could have sent you a million instead.

I'd be out campaigning for you too, but I (annoyingly) keep bursting into tears on short notice since my mom died... and no access to grief ... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 1 · October 2 at 9:33pm



**Bob-and Kim Kinsey** Arn I support

Chat (Off)

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 the Green Party. Why should any party be exempt. I have given everyday for a year. Tens of thousands of dollars. Thousands of miles. My kids don't see me. I've been arrested. I've sleep in my tru... [See More](#)

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · October 2 at 11:55pm



Write a reply...



**Dan Liss** I think you will make a good senator, and I will be voting for you.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · October 3 at 3:01am



**Grant Elder** Awesome Arn. Persistence is the ultimate ingredient to success.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 3 at 2:02pm



**Evan R. Herzoff** That co-chair you mentioned, and a couple of that co-chair's cohorts, are the only reason I've been so reluctant to support the Green Party in recent years. I think what you are doing by speaking up is a brave step

toward real integrity, a demonstration of accountability and therefore the opposite of irresponsible, and it has been needed for a long time. The co-chair mentioned has alienated the working masses in Colorado far more than allowing the truth to be known. It isn't factional infighting nor sectarianism, it is an expression of true commitment to building a better alternative to the two corporate parties, a building process that has long been obstructed by that particular co-chair. A genuinely accountable alternative is a better alternative. A bogus facade of unity won't win the true support of the masses, a display of integrity and commitment to accountability will. After all, bogus displays of unity has been the Democrats' disingenuous tactic in duping the working class and the oppressed into voting our way into the graveyard of social movements for decades. A left third party can't afford to make that same mistake.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Yesterday at 12:14am



Write a comment...



**Arn Menconi** **CO Progressives for Arn Menconi U.S. Senate**

October 2 at 2:05pm ·

The Green Party in Colorado has devolved into a power struggle for nothing while the issues for Coloradans to increase minimum wage, universal healthcare, antifracking measures and candidates like Robert Lee Worthey Jenice JJ Dove and myself go undressed.

I've seen this happen before in politics and we've seen it with Debbie Wasserman Schultz and Hillary. The Colorado Green Party's Co Chair Andrea will come after me next through other people who have no clue what is happening... [See More](#)

Bill Bartlett, Harry Hempy and 11 others

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[#GreenExit/ #JillExit](#) If you've come to promote Jill Stein for the presidency, please do yourself a favor and unfollow this group. We stand with Bernie in defeating Trump and supporting Jill does not do that.

213

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**John Alry Palaming** shared [Pagsanjan's photo](#).

August 17 ·

## TAGGED LOCATION

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See you there guys. To God be the Glory. [#greenexit](#)

## DATE POSTED

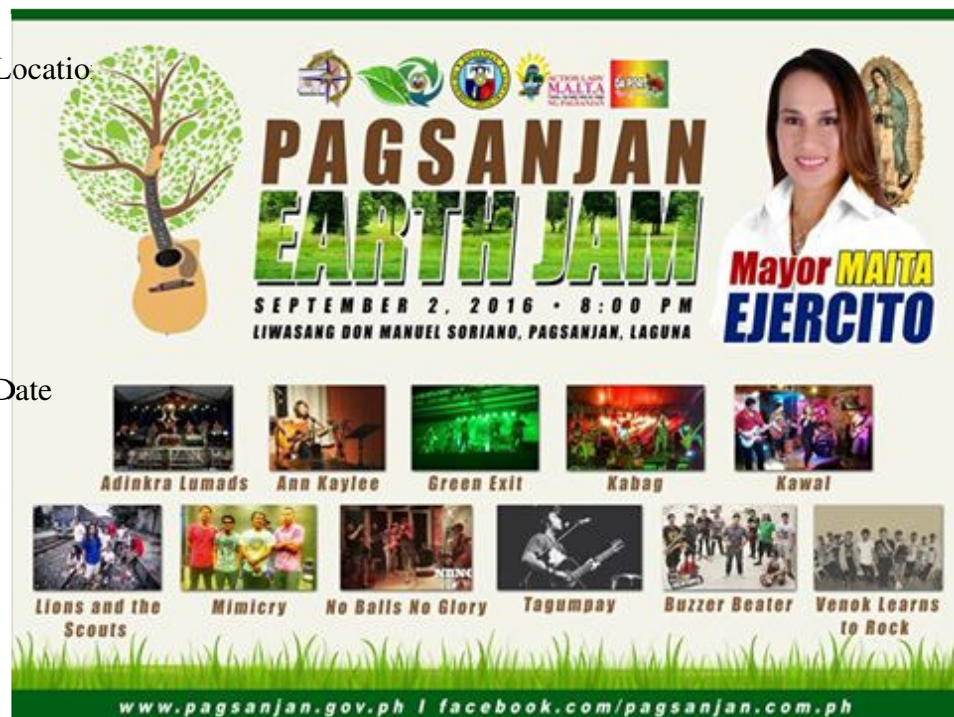
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**Pagsanjan**

August 17 ·

Like Page

The Municipality of Pagsanjan cordially invites everyone to take part of our Earth Jam 2016 at the Liwasang Don Manuel Soriano, this municipality on September 2...

[See More](#)

9

3 Comments

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**Renzo Espolita Sumadsad Espolita**

September 2 ·

Chat (Off)

Evidence

Page 55

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar**

Hey there...I see there's a proposal to recall me on the council forum. Did you vote to support that in the Jeffco meeting?

October 18



10/18, 2:16pm

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar**

I'll take the non-response as a yes.



10/18, 2:58pm

**Scott Lupo**

Hi Andrea,

Our chapter did decide to sponsor the proposal after some long discussions, including potential consequences. It was convincing to me that attempting to recall Bill was ill advised and now has caused a schism in the party. Censure would have been appropriate in my mind and then have discussions about recall/elections on co-chairs after the election. But that's done. Now, of course, the spotlight will fall on the other co-chair, that being you. To be honest, I do not like the direction our state party is going and it is time to re-evaluate what our goals and mission are because it's gone off the rails during this election season. Our leadership has been lacking in internal communication, cooperation, messaging to the world, onboarding new Green members, and fostering a sense of community. This last one being one of the most important, especially for me. Don't get me wrong, I know everybody is human and squabbles are going to happen but it's out of control with name calling and outrageous accusations built on hyperbole and scant evidence. Here we are 20 days out and the Colorado Green Party is lost. It is convincing to me that we should have no co-chairs at this time and rely on direct democracy instead of representative democracy until we get our affairs in order. I guess that can be called a recall, but mostly it's just necessary.



10/18, 3:11pm

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar**

Here's the problem. The proposal to recall Bill was not mine. Neither did Denver co-sponsor. If you preferred censure, why didn't you ask for that amendment within agreement seeking?

What exactly about the direction don't you like? I have bent over backward to assist you, communicate, loop you in when Michael would not. And what exactly does the onboarding process for new members actually look like in Jeffco?

Do you realize that of the 7 new and in-information chapters, 6 have been directly developed by me, and they include nearly all former Sanders supporters? What kind of outreach are you looking for, exactly?

I have done nothing but support you and treat you with respect. You didn't extend me the same courtesy. You have accepted accusations and hyperbole about me without even asking me if any were true...in fact, there have never been any specific accusations! And I have to say, the fact that you would show up to a BLM rally in January and then sidestep racist and sexist speech is hypocritical. You personally have endorsed such behavior by your actions, and you have therefore also said it's ok for a man to physically threaten a woman.

So I guess if that's the direction you're looking for, then you're right. We do need a change. You might start by advocating for democracy within the Jeffco chapter and calling for co-chair elections as you committed to do.

You blame me for all the things that you refuse to hold Bill accountable for, you sideswipe all the bigoted things he has said and done just in the examples provided, and you don't even give me the respect of asking me what happened.

Why is that? I can only arrive at one conclusion.

---

• Sunday



10/16, 10:45am

[Andrea Mérida Cuéllar](#)

Hey there...I see there's a proposal to recall me on the council forum. Did you vote to support that in the Jeffco meeting?

---

• Today



2:16pm

[Andrea Mérida Cuéllar](#)

I'll take the non-response as a yes.



2:58pm

[Scott Lupo](#)

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3:11pm

[Andrea Mérida Cuéllar](#)



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Why is that? I can only arrive at one conclusion.



## GPCO Forum

**Council => Private Council Discussion => Topic started by: Harry Hempy on December 24, 2016, 12:38:10 PM**

Title: **Elephant in the Room #1: ColoradoCare**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **December 24, 2016, 12:38:10 PM**

Quote from: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on October 21, 2016, 02:44:15 PM

I want to call out the elephant in the room, and that's the distress over my personal opinion, which I have shared with many of you, about Amendment 69. I am on the record as personally being opposed. That is offensive to some of you. However, I have never represented my personal opinion as the state opinion, I have never blocked any proposal brought forward, nor have I ever coerced anyone to take on my opinion.

ColoradoCare has, indeed, become an elephant in the room that cannot be ignored. I am understanding that the issue won't go away (we won't have forgiveness and reconciliation) until it is recognized and understood.

[CENSORSHIP in GPCO and the MY GIRL meme are also elephants in the room. To avoid conflating issues, I won't address these elephants in this topic.]

I acknowledge (and confess) that ColoradoCare became a state party issue only because of my actions. Andrea and I have had a personal falling out ever since. She has restricted (not just blocked; restricted) my ability to even read any post she makes on Facebook, does not respond to my emails, and hangs up the phone when I call her.

When I read the misinformation about ColoradoCare in the July 2015 issue of the Denver Green Party newsletter, I immediately asked the newsletter editor [Andrea] to print a correction in the next newsletter. Andrea ignored the request. She has been covering up her misstatements about ColoradoCare ever since and has not yet acknowledged the errors in that newsletter. For example, Andrea still claims that, under ColoradoCare, employees would have to pay more in health care taxes than their employers. See details at <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=306.msg1536#msg1536> (<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=306.msg1536#msg1536>).

As to Andrea's claims:

Quote from: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on October 21, 2016, 02:44:15 PM

I have never represented my personal opinion as the state opinion

True. But Andrea represented her personal opinion as the Denver Green Party position in the July 2015 issue of the Denver Green Party newsletter and in the Denver Green Party 2016 Ballot Question Positions document, dated October 23, three days after GPCO Council endorsed Amendment 69.

Quote from: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on October 21, 2016, 02:44:15 PM

I have never blocked any proposal brought forward

True. And I thank Andrea for that. Council agreed to Proposal 003-16 to endorse Amendment 69 ColoradoCare on October 20, 2016. However, co-chairs [Andrea and Dave Bell], council facilitator [Andrea], and administrator [Andrea] have yet to acknowledge council's agreement to endorse.

Quote from: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on October 21, 2016, 02:44:15 PM

nor have I ever coerced anyone to take on my opinion.

This is questionable. I felt coerced to drop my resolution to endorse ColoradoCare at the 2015 annual meeting, in an attempt to appease Andrea and produce the appearance of unity at the meeting. I am sorry I acquiesced. Here we are, 18 months later, with an elephant in

the room.

I was OK with Andrea's suggestion, dated September 9, to present balanced pro and con arguments and let the voters decide:

Quote

let's issue a **pro/con** document that will help voters decide.

So I felt betrayed when I read Andrea's hatchet job against ColoradoCare in the Denver Green Party's voter guide for 2016 ballot initiatives. The article contained two con arguments and no pro arguments. The con arguments from the July 2015 Denver Green Party newsletter disappeared without explanation and were replaced by two new con arguments, as follows:

Quote

public funding for abortions is not covered

and

Quote

there is too much potential for unintended consequences with the fact that the oversight board cannot be recalled

These con arguments should be rejected.

To argue that ColoradoCare should be opposed because the state constitution (since 1984) forbids use of public funds for abortions makes as much sense as arguing that public funds should not be used for abortions because of Roman Catholic dogma proscribing abortions and artificial birth control. If we don't like the state constitution's ban on public funds for abortions, let's change that provision of the constitution. Taking it out on ColoradoCare is ridiculous.

The argument that 'the oversight board cannot be recalled' is a holdover from the initial misunderstandings at the June 2015 Denver Green Party meeting. Specifically, Denver Greens were told that ColoradoCare elections would be held under the auspices of the Colorado Secretary of State. This is not true and Andrea has never advised Denver Green Party members of this untruth.

If ColoradoCare had passed, Coloradans would have had the opportunity to create an election system open to all adult residents, not just electors registered with the secretary of state, featuring ranked choice voting and single transferable vote protocol that would produce a modicum of proportional representation (given that ColoradoCare districts would each have three representatives) on the governing board. There would have been potential for Greens to be elected. The secretary of state would have had no authority to derail the system.

ColoradoCare would have been a win for oppressed people in Colorado. *Comparing ColoradoCare - An Analysis of Health Care Costs for Latino and Immigrant Coloradans*, is a detailed intersectional analysis from the Colorado Fiscal Institute, dated June 2016. The study concluded that Hispanic households in Colorado will see large gains from ColoradoCare. We missed a great opportunity to improve the health care that ethnic minorities, women, children, and low-wage employees receive in Colorado. This was a missed opportunity for Latinx outreach.

As a Roman Catholic, Andrea surely understands that forgiveness is part of a process that includes confession, penitence, and reconciliation. Every religion and self-help program has the same process in one form or another. One characterization is, "No justice? No peace!"

To move forward, for justice with peace, Andrea must acknowledge her actions vis a vis ColoradoCare, as follows:

1. Andrea attempted to cover up her misstatements about ColoradoCare made at the June 2015 Denver chapter meeting.
2. Andrea attempted to cover up her misstatements about ColoradoCare made in the July 2015 Denver chapter newsletter.
3. Andrea retaliated against Harry's post of pro ColoradoCare points by banning him from the state website, without notifying Harry, without consulting with the steering committee, without consulting with council, and in violation of state party bylaws on due process for members.
4. Andrea attempted to cover up her action against Harry by secretly restoring Harry's access to the website (on November 23, 2016), without notifying Harry, the steering committee, or council.

When Andrea acknowledges these actions, I will be able to forgive and move on toward reconciliation and party unity.

Title: **Re: Elephant in the Room #1: ColoradoCare**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 09, 2017, 02:51:07 PM**

Harry, I am writing to address some of the last few posts and comments you have added to the forum recently.

The current forum Code of Conduct states, "Refrain from using ALL CAPS (shouting), profanity, belittling, accusations, and threats." On a recent post, you responded using profanity and an extremely irritable tone.

The code also states, "Personal attacks will not be tolerated. Report personal attacks for moderation. Do not allow personal attacks to escalate."

Your recent posts focused on one individual are excessive and now are at the level of personal attacks. This type of personal attack will not be tolerated. Therefore, they will be deleted, as they are unrelated to any current or pending state council business. Any further breaches of the Code of Conduct will result in a suspension of your privileges for using the forum.

Please refer to the code of conduct for more information, here: <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=28.0>

I will delete this post after a couple days to ensure you have seen it.

Thank you.

## GPCO Forum

**Council => Private Council Discussion => Topic started by: Harry Hempy on January 03, 2017, 05:41:31 PM**

Title: **Elephant in the Room #2: MY GIRL Meme**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **January 03, 2017, 05:41:31 PM**

### **Elephant in the Room #2: MY GIRL Meme**

Andrea Merida's failure to acknowledge her misstatements about ColoradoCare in June 2015 and her subsequent efforts to cover up her misstatements are addressed in Elephant in the Room #1: ColoradoCare. <http://gpcO.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=311.0>

But there is an older and larger elephant in the room that is dividing the Green Party of Colorado along demographic lines. Unknown to almost all Colorado Greens, the accusations of sexist and racist attitudes that are tearing the state party originated in discussion of the MY GIRL meme in early 2015. (Ref 1)

To get to the crux of the party's divisions, GPCO needs to understand we have been in a shit fight over FEMINISM ever since Andrea took the position that

Quote

Men have no right to inject their opinions in Green discussions of feminism.

and told the men to "butt out".

Andrea's interpretation of the Green Party's eighth key value, Feminism and Gender Equality, to exclude males from discussions is mind-blowing. Andrea has never explained how she can interpret our values of FEMINISM and Gender Equality to exclude people of a certain gender. She has never even acknowledged she made the statement.

The party must resist exclusionary practices, such as banning men from discussing FEMINISM.

### **Ref 1: MY GIRL Meme:**

Discussion of the MY GIRL meme on the GPUS discussion group on Facebook in early 2015 spawned a fight in the Green Party of Colorado that continues to this day, including calls to impeach both state co-chairs based on mutual accusations of sexual and racial bigotry. The fight has been studiously ignored by the state party. It is time to expose the issues raised by the MY GIRL meme.

It was early 2015. Greens were reviewing a series of memes on the GPUS Facebook discussion group for potential use in the Jill Stein campaign for President. One meme was a great picture of Dr. Stein with a short quote and the words "MY GIRL" in bold type across the bottom of the meme.

A Green from New York, I think, commented that referring to Jill as a girl was marginalizing. The predominant reaction was negative, on the basis that the meme could easily be attacked as sexist.

I commented that I liked the meme because it had high production values, was attention getting in its simplicity, and thought provoking.

Andrea Merida also liked the MY GIRL meme. She commented that calling a woman "girl" was just fine in her community; "girl" was used as a term of endearment.

Two or three Greens, who happened to be male, challenged Andrea's position and Andrea then responded with this startling interpretation of the eighth key value, Feminism and Gender Equality:

Quote

I respectfully request the males to butt out of this discussion. Men have no right to inject their opinions in Green discussions of feminism.

The discussion quickly devolved into an profane barrage of sexist and racist accusations and counter accusations. Colorado Greens Andrea Merida, myself, and state co-chair Bill Bartlett participated in this shit fight. The discussion was such an embarrassment to the party that Facebook administrator, Starlene Rankin, promptly removed the entire discussion.

## Ref 2: Intersectionality and the Green Party:

<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=312.0>

Title: **Re: Elephant in the Room #2: MY GIRL Meme**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 09, 2017, 02:50:37 PM**

Harry, I am writing to address some of the last few posts and comments you have added to the forum recently.

The current forum Code of Conduct states, "Refrain from using ALL CAPS (shouting), profanity, belittling, accusations, and threats." On a recent post, you responded using profanity and an extremely irritable tone.

The code also states, "Personal attacks will not be tolerated. Report personal attacks for moderation. Do not allow personal attacks to escalate."

Your recent posts focused on one individual are excessive and now are at the level of personal attacks. This type of personal attack will not be tolerated. Therefore, they will be deleted, as they are unrelated to any current or pending state council business. Any further breaches of the Code of Conduct will result in a suspension of your privileges for using the forum.

Please refer to the code of conduct for more information, here: <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=28.0>

I am deleting this post in a couple days, to give you a chance to see this message.

Thank you.

## GPCO Forum

**Colorado Greens Discussion => General Discussion => Topic started by: Harry Hempy on November 03, 2016, 04:06:04 AM**

Title: **Due process for revoking Harry Hempy's right to participate on party website**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **November 03, 2016, 04:06:04 AM**

On October 30, 2016 I was unable to access the ColoradoGreenParty.org website.

On November 1 I phoned the registered tech support number for ColoradoGreenParty.org and was told the Green Party of Colorado had revoked my right to participate on ColoradoGreenParty.org because I habitually troll the website.

I contest this characterization as a troller (whatever that means) on ColoradoGreenParty.org or any party-owned social media.

Paragraph 3.3 of the party bylaws guarantees due process to every individual in the party before being kicked out, including at least 3 weeks notice of the potential punitive action. I received no notification before my access was cut off.

After the election is over I will solicit from GPCO Council a written notification of the revocation of my rights of participation on party's website and the party's justification for taking this action. I want an opportunity to speak in my defense at the earliest feasible date.

Title: **Due process for revoking Harry Hempy's right to participate on party website**  
Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **November 03, 2016, 01:55:16 PM**

This is outrageous. Sounds like an attempt to silence unwanted opinions by the individual who made that decision, or worse we have a plant.

Michael Haughey  
JC Greens

Title: **Re: Due process for revoking Harry Hempy's right to participate on party website**  
Post by: **rlworthey** on **November 24, 2016, 09:13:24 AM**

Who specifically revoked your access?

Title: **Re: Due process for revoking Harry Hempy's right to participate on party website**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **November 24, 2016, 10:58:14 AM**

My access was revoked by the Administrator of the GPCO Website ColoradoGreenParty.org. According to the GPCO Forum member list and Whois.com the administrator of record is Andrea Merida. If it was not Andrea, that site has been hacked.

Title: **Re: Due process for revoking Harry Hempy's right to participate on party website**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **December 02, 2016, 11:16:04 PM**

I received no complaints about my behavior as a Green from GPCO Council, so on Nov. 30, I submitted a proposal to Council for drafting and discussion (hidden from general party members) to prevent Andrea Merida from abusing her position as website administrator in

the future.

The text:

Quote

WHEREAS,

The Green Party of Colorado has revoked Harry Hempy's access to ColoradoGreenParty.org, the official public website of the Green Party of Colorado,

THEREFORE,

GPCO Council takes the following actions:

1. GPCO Co-chair, Secretary, and Treasurer positions are declared vacated, effective immediately and will remain vacant until party elections are held at the 2017 Annual Meeting.
2. GPCO Council will form a select committee, charged with planning and conducting the 2017 GPCO Annual Meeting, within 15 days of adoption of this proposal. The annual meeting will occur between February 1 and March 26, 2017.
3. Accusations that Harry Hempy has misused GPCO social media, described in **4. Background** of this proposal, are dismissed. Harry's access to ColoradoGreenParty.org and all GPCO social media shall be restored, effective immediately.

Andrea UNblocked me from the state party website immediately after I posted this proposal. That is the good news.

Unfortunately, Council did not address the due process issues and bylaws violations issues raised in the proposal.

I remain concerned that Council was silent regarding Andrea's dominant position over the Green Party of Colorado, which enables her to secretly block anybody's access to party assets with no justification and no accountability to Council.

## GPCO Forum

**Council => Proposal Drafting => Topic started by: Harry Hempy on November 23, 2016, 08:47:53 AM**

**Title: Due process for revoking Harry Hempy's right to participate on party website**  
**Post by: Harry Hempy on November 23, 2016, 08:47:53 AM**

Council, I invite your critique of this draft proposal and your suggestions for improvement before it is submitted for agreement-seeking. Thanks for your input, Harry (303-459-0172)

### 1. Basic Info:

Date proposed: November 23, 2016

Name of the sponsor(s): Harry Hempy, TBD

2. Title: Resolution of **403: Forbidden** error on ColoradoGreenParty.org

3. Text of the actual proposal:

WHEREAS,

The Green Party of Colorado has revoked Harry Hempy's access to ColoradoGreenParty.org, the official public website of the Green Party of Colorado,

THEREFORE,

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2. GPCO Council will form a select committee, charged with planning and conducting the 2017 GPCO Annual Meeting, within 15 days of adoption of this proposal. The annual meeting will occur between February 1 and March 26, 2017.
3. Accusations that Harry Hempy has misused GPCO social media, described in **4. Background** of this proposal, are dismissed. Harry's access to ColoradoGreenParty.org and all GPCO social media shall be restored, effective immediately.

### 4. Background:

On October 30, 2016 I, Harry Hempy, was unable to access the ColoradoGreenParty.org website. I received a **403: Forbidden** error from HostGator, the company hosting ColoradoGreenParty.org.<sup>Ref. 1</sup> The HostGator customer service representative told me the site was operating normally and gave me the registered tech support number for problems on ColoradoGreenParty.org.

On November 1 I phoned tech support for ColoradoGreenParty.org and was told the Green Party of Colorado had revoked my right to participate on ColoradoGreenParty.org because I habitually troll the website.

On November 9 I asked all Council members for evidence they may have of trolling behavior by me. I received 2 responses:

Quote



This is the first I'm hearing of this. I have no specific examples of anything you have done wrong. You should be reinstated immediately.

Quote

I have been trying to keep up-to-date on new posts and I have NOT seen ANY trolling by you. Trolling is not just following, but posting harmful items repeatedly. Someone in an admin position is seriously abusing this system.

I also searched my mail log, going back to May 1, 2013 when I affiliated with the Green Party of Colorado. There is only one mention of trolling, in this email from a Co-chair of the Denver Green Party:

Quote

From: Andrea Mérida <andreamerida@gmail.com>  
To: Harry Hempy <harryhempy@gmail.com>  
Cc: Laura Clark <lclark.gpco@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2015 1:07 AM  
Subject: Re: Denver Green Party Meeting Notes for June 2015 - ColoradoCare

Harry, I want to let you know that I deleted your pro-Initiative 20 comment from the Denver Greens page.

You know, from reading our notes, that we are contemplating a no position. Yet, you chose to impose your opinion on our chapter, now twice today.

You have already been asked to not insert yourself into the workings of our chapter. Your posting of a comment is disrespectful to our process, and it is conduct that should not happen between co-chairs. I will thank you for refraining to overstep your bounds and inserting yourself into our chapter business in this way.

I need to let you know that if you continue to impose your will (**aka troll**) on our page, I will ban you from the page.

You and I have already discussed that our position was going to be different from yours, and as you will notice, I have not posted anti-Initiative 20 remarks on your social media.

I am taken aback by your repeated disregard for the collaborative nature in which I have always interacted with you. Please respect my wishes and stay in your lane.

As this email says I "imposed by opinion" twice. First, I sent a reply to the Denver Greens Newsletter editor, to point out errors in the discussion of Initiative 20 (aka, ColoradoCare and Amendment 69) at the June 2015 meeting of the Denver Greens.

Quote

The discussion of Initiative 20 in the July 2015 issue of the Denver Greens newsletter has several errors. Please publish a correction in the next newsletter. My corrections are in **bold type**.

Quote

Initiative 20: ColoradoCare  
A proposed ballot initiative to create an elected board of 21 to oversee implementation of the Affordable Care act. The work of this implementation will be paid for by both employee and employer payroll taxes, with the weight borne more by the employee. **WRONG: 2/3 is paid by the employer**. The interim board will be appointed by Governor Hickenlooper, **WRONG: 5 people appoint the interim board**. and presumably, candidates will be subject to campaign finance limits and regulations required by the Secretary of State. **WRONG: The state does not control ColoradoCare elections**.

I phoned the Denver Greens Newsletter editor and it was immediately obvious that no retraction would be published. So I posted this comment on the Denver Greens Facebook page, which the administrator promptly deleted:

Quote

Initiative 20 would establish a people's cooperative named ColoradoCare to provide comprehensive, universal health care coverage in Colorado. Main features:

- Comprehensive health care financing for ALL Colorado residents (not just US citizens).
- Eliminates the need for private health insurance; puts people's health before corporate profits.
- Saves Coloradans \$5B per year in health care costs.
- The tax structure is progressive, because unearned income is taxed.
- A 15-member interim board, appointed by the 2 CO House leaders, 2 CO Senate leaders and the governor, will define a non-partisan election system, not subject to CO election statutes, for an elected ColoradoCare Board of Trustees.

## 5. Justification/Goals:

**1. Justification for restoring Harry's access to ColoradoGreenParty.org.**

- To claim that Harry's post on the Denver Greens Facebook page represents a failure to adhere to the purpose and methods of the Green Party of Colorado, is laughable. The claim should be rejected out of hand.

**2. Justification for declaring GPCO Co-chair, Secretary, and Treasurer positions to be vacated:**

- Under the current leadership, Council has not acted on the party's strategic projects and needs for the 2016 election cycle.

Quote

The following projects and needs were identified at the 2015 GPCO Annual Meeting:<sup>Ref 2</sup>

Strategic Projects:

- Create a tactical committee to collect and analyze data for "vulnerable" state-wide and local elected positions make recommendations to Council.
- Revise mission statement in the bylaws with a clear and succinct statement of our purpose mission.
- Use NationBuilder as a centralized database of registered Greens in Colorado to facilitate better coordination and support between the state party and local chapters.

Identified needs:

- Budget for 2016 election cycle and fund-raising
- Political director
- Campaign manager(s)
- Brain trust of Greens who have served in public office or run for public office who can support new candidates

- GPCO Committees and Working Groups have done nothing since the 2015 Annual Meeting.
- Authority and participation in GPCO is too centralized.

Since the 2015 Annual Meeting, participation in party governance has contracted. The following Green Party positions in Colorado are all held by the same person:

- GPCO Co-chair
  - ColoradoGreenParty.org Website Administrator
  - ColoradoGreenParty.org Website Tech Support
  - GPCO Council Facilitator
  - Denver Greens Co-chair
  - Denver Greens Newsletter editor
  - Denver Greens Administrator
- GPCO officers are not acting in an accountable manner.
  - A GPCO officers have taken punitive actions against other party officers and party members without consulting Council and in violation of bylaws paragraph 3.3.
  - Revoking Harry's access to ColoradoGreenParty.org is an example of rogue action by a GPCO Co-chair.

**3. Justification for forming a select committee to plan and conduct the 2017 GPCO Annual Meeting, to be held between February 1 and March 26, 2017.**

- GPCO typically forms a committee to prepare for an annual meeting.
- The 2016 election cycle is finished. Now is the time to start the 2018 cycle, beginning with the 2017 Annual Meeting. The purpose of this annual meeting of the general membership is to elect new state party officers and adopt a strategic plan for the 2018 cycle.
- The 2017 Annual Meeting should be held as early is feasible to get a good start

on the 2018 cycle. Democrats and Republicans hold their meetings in February or March; the Green Party should do the same. Delaying the odd-year annual meeting to August, as the party has been doing in recent years, puts the party six months behind.

#### 6. Pros and Cons:

Andrea Merida has apparently had it in for me since July 16, 2016 when I pointed out the misinformation about ColoradoCare that was presented as fact at the June 2015 meeting of the Denver chapter.

She neither retracted nor corrected the misinformation at any meeting of the Denver chapter or in the Denver Greens Newsletter.

People need to be accountable for their actions. Andrea has never acknowledged her early misunderstanding of ColoradoCare.

#### 7. Alternatives to the proposal:

Initiate the process of revoking Harry Hempy's right of participation as a member of the Green Party of Colorado.

Per bylaws paragraph 3.3, the process begins with notifying Harry of the potential revocation of his rights of participation at least three weeks prior to the vote. Revocation of the rights of participation must be based on failure of the individual to adhere to the purpose and methods of the Green Party of Colorado.

#### 8. References:

Ref. 1: Screenshot of 403: Forbidden error on Harry's computer

Ref. 2: Raw notes from 2015 GPCO Annual Meeting

Title: <b>Re: Due process for revoking Harry Hempy's right to participate on party website</b> Post by: <b>Harry Hempy</b> on <b>November 23, 2016, 08:56:05 AM</b>
--

In item 6. Pros and Cons: "July 16, 2016" is wrong and should be replaced by "July 16, **2015**".

Title: <b>Re: Due process for revoking Harry Hempy's right to participate on party website</b> Post by: <b>Harry Hempy</b> on <b>November 23, 2016, 09:58:15 AM</b>
--

WOW! The GPCO Website Administrator restored my website access within 5 minutes of the creation of this topic.

Title: <b>Re: Due process for revoking Harry Hempy's right to participate on party website</b> Post by: <b>Harry Hempy</b> on <b>December 02, 2016, 10:05:55 AM</b>
--

Andrea UNblocked me from the state party website immediately after I posted this proposal. That is the good news.

Unfortunately, Council did not address the due process and bylaws issues raised in the proposal during the week it has been open for drafting and discussion.

I am concerned that Council is silent regarding Andrea's dominant position over the Green

Party of Colorado, which enables her to secretly block anybody's access to party assets with no justification and no accountability to Council.

At any rate, I am dropping this proposal and will not carry it forward for agreement seeking.

Title: **Re: Due process for revoking Harry Hempy's right to participate on party website**  
Post by: **judyh** on **December 02, 2016, 11:23:31 AM**

Harry, is there some history about why the meeting has been held in August in recent years? How long has it been since the meeting was held earlier? What month was the meeting held before the change to August?

Title: **Re: Due process for revoking Harry Hempy's right to participate on party website**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **December 05, 2016, 01:52:19 PM**

Judy, See my answer at <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=308.0>

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## Evidence Group Appendix C: Ignoring Council Rules

## GPCO Forum

**Council => Proposal Agreement Seeking => Topic started by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on March 12, 2017, 02:25:05 PM**

**Title: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**  
**Post by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on March 12, 2017, 02:25:05 PM**

Please read the proposal and keep comments on the topic of the proposal only. This proposal is moderated, and the GPCO Code of Conduct will apply (located here: <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=28.0>).

Designate your vote by using the following terms: AGREE, BLOCK, or STAND ASIDE. Any blocks will require a vote of the council.

Per Section 3.1 of the GPCO Bylaws, "A Green local must present its proposed bylaws for approval, and be approved by 60% of the voting Greens at a state party meeting, or by the state council."

There are currently twelve (12) active voting chapters in the Green Party of Colorado. Adoption of this proposal requires an AGREE of at least 60% of all votes cast and also requires a minimum quorum of at least one response from seven (7) chapters.

Active Chapters  
Jefferson County  
Adams County  
Arapahoe County  
Denver  
Douglas County  
Greater Boulder  
Pikes Peak  
Poudre Valley  
Mesa  
San Miguel  
Platte Valley  
Longmont

The floor is now open for one week of Agreement Seeking, ending March 19, 2017 at 11.59 pm.

### 1. Basic Info

Date proposed: March 12, 2017  
Name of the sponsors: Greater Boulder Green Party

### 2. Title:

Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office

### 3. Text of the actual Proposal:

To clarify officers term of office and remove obsolete material, the Bylaws of the Green Party of Colorado shall be amended as follows.

Replace Section 5.1 which currently reads, "In order to serve the growth of the GPCO and to communicate our message, platform and values to the public, the GPCO will elect two state co-chairs to two year terms. Every effort shall be made to reach gender and geographic diversity." with the following text:

#### Quote

Officers shall be chosen at each annual state meeting held in odd number years to two year terms. The term of office begins immediately upon election and ends with the election of officers at the next odd year annual meeting. Every effort shall be made to reach gender and geographic diversity.

Delete Section 5.7 in its entirety. The section currently reads, "Co-chairs shall be chosen at each annual state meeting and other officers in odd number years to serve two year terms in office." This section is obsolete because co-chairs now serve two year terms.

#### 4. Background:

Greater Boulder Green Party seeks to clarify the length of service of the co-chairs.

#### 5. Justification/Goals:

Historically, terms of GPCO officers have run from annual meeting to annual meeting. This amendment simply codifies past practice, going back at least to 2007. An explicit reference to the co-chair term in the minutes from the state meeting in 2007 can be found at <http://coloradogreenparty.org/about/history/gpco-2007-state-meeting-minutes/>.

The meeting was held June 23-24, 2007, in Carbondale, Colorado. On Saturday, June 23, after a decision to change the co-chair terms from two years (which they were at that time) to one year, the following is found in the meeting minutes.

#### Quote

11:15 a.m. Election of new state officers and national delegates and selection of webmaster and e-list manager Tom Kelly of the Arapahoe Greens and Dave Chandler of the Adams-Jefferson Greens volunteered to become co-chairs for the 07-08 term.

Agreement seeking resulted in a consensus for Kelly and Chandler as state co-chairs for approximately one year, beginning June 23 and until the next annual state meeting.

Dan Sage of the Arapahoe Greens volunteered to continue as state treasurer for the 07-09 term.

Agreement seeking resulted in a consensus for Sage as treasurer for approximately two years, beginning June 23 and until the annual state meeting of 2009.

Eric Fried of the Poudre Valley Greens volunteered to become state secretary for the 07-09 term.

Agreement seeking resulted in a consensus for Fried as secretary for approximately two years, beginning June 23 and until the annual state meeting of 2009.

This is an explicit description of a one-year term being approximately one year from the date of the election to the date of the following year's meeting. It is also an explicit description of a two-year term being approximately two years from the date of the election to the date of the meeting two years hence. Although the co-chair terms were reduced from two years to one year, the other offices continued with two-year terms, so both the one-year term and the two-year term are described in the minutes. The description of the term length is repeated for each office, so it does not seem to be a typo.

The 2008 meeting was held on May 3, so the nominal one-year term from the 2007 meeting (June 23) to the 2008 meeting (May 3) was approximately ten and a half months. The 2009 meeting was held in July by teleconference, no specific date available on the history page, so the nominal two-year term from the 2007 meeting (June 23) to the 2009 meeting

(sometime in July) was several weeks longer than two years.

#### 6. Pros and Cons:

Pros: There is no precedent for setting the annual meeting date based on the date the current officers were elected. Delaying the annual meeting, so as to put the desire of an officer to serve 24 months ahead of the needs of the party to organize for the 2018 election cycle, hurts the party's prospects for the 2018 election.

Cons:

#### 7. Alternatives to the proposal:

8. References: **Moderator Note: This issue has already been corrected via Proposal 007-15: length of co-chair term (<http://gpcoco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=251.0>).**

Title: **Re: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**  
Post by: **Larry Dunn** on **March 12, 2017, 02:29:51 PM**

BLOCK

Title: **Re: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **March 12, 2017, 02:46:24 PM**

Ok, now that this proposal has been blocked, I have moved it to the Voting page, here: <http://gpcoco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=322.0>

Please note that any votes cast here will not be counted. They must be cast at the link above.

I will be turning off comments here if there is confusion.

Thanks.

Title: **Re: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**  
Post by: **judyh** on **March 12, 2017, 04:23:12 PM**

Per Section 3.1 of the GPCO Bylaws, "A Green **local** must present its proposed bylaws for approval, and be approved by 60% of the voting Greens at a state party meeting, or by the state council."

Isn't this a clarification of the state by-laws, not a local chapter's by-laws?

Title: **Re: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **March 13, 2017, 03:07:54 AM**

Andrea,

There is definitely confusion, on a couple levels.

1. The content of bylaws section 5.7 is unclear. According to proposal 007-15 the text  
Evidence



should be

Quote

5.7 Officers shall be chosen in odd numbered years to serve two-year terms in office.

But the copy of the bylaws on the GPCO website reads

Quote

5.7 Co-chairs shall be chosen at each annual state meeting and other officers in odd number years to serve two year terms in office.

2. The proposal you posted here is different from the proposal on the Proposal Drafting board that GBGP agreed to sponsor. You summarily censored the background section that explained the reason for the proposal. I'm confused that you think you have the authority to censor other people's proposals.

For these reasons, I propose an amendment to this proposal to replace the entire Text of the proposal with the following:

Quote

5.7 Officers shall be chosen at each odd-year annual meeting to serve two-year terms, ending at the next odd-year annual meeting.

This change to 5.7 will resolve the confusion about the wording of 5.7 in the current bylaws and clearly establish that officers terms run from odd year annual meeting to odd-year annual meeting.

Title: **Re: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **March 13, 2017, 04:13:12 AM**

Larry,

I would ask you to reconsider your block.

Bylaws section 5.7 clearly states

Quote

5.7 Co-chairs shall be chosen at each annual state meeting . . . .

This is obviously wrong because Co-chairs serve two-year terms, per section 5.1.

If you don't like my wording for fixing section 5.7:

Quote

5.7 Officers shall be chosen at each odd-year annual meeting to serve two-year terms, ending at the next odd-year annual meeting.

please propose an alternative sentence that makes it clear that officer elections occur only in odd numbered years.

Title: **Re: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **March 13, 2017, 04:33:17 AM**

Larry,

Would you agree to just adding the word "odd-year" before "annual state meeting"?

Title: **Re: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **March 13, 2017, 10:44:50 AM**

I'll modify the proposal in voting with your text. I simply took what you originally

submitted.

EDIT: I've modified the bylaws to reflect the change ratified with 007-15. I will not modify the proposal language, because it contains hyperbole.

Title: **Re: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **March 13, 2017, 11:54:34 AM**

I can see what part of the issue is, here. The bylaws were never updated to reflect the change from the passage of Proposal 007-15, which was actually passed before I became co-chair and before Sean Friend became secretary.

<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=251.0>

The bylaws now say the following:

V. Officers

5.1 In order to serve the growth of the GPCO and to communicate our message, platform and values to the public, the GPCO will elect two state co-chairs to two-year terms.

Every effort shall be made to reach gender and geographic diversity.

5.7 Officers shall be chosen in odd numbered years to serve two year terms in office.

This reflects your amendment back then too.

Title: **Re: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**  
Post by: **Larry Dunn** on **March 13, 2017, 12:15:00 PM**

And given the above reply by Andrea, I will keep my block in place. The language disagreement at issue here seems to have been cleared up by Proposal 007-15, and I therefore see no reason to reconsider my block.

Larry Dunn  
ACGP

Title: **Re: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**  
Post by: **Art Goodtimes** on **April 09, 2017, 04:20:13 PM**

i missed this vote in going out to see my new granddaughter in san francisco.  
but i'm surprised to see a block without an explanation of why. this is supposed to be agreement-seeking time, where we discuss a proposal. blocking without explanation is a curtailment of discussion. that's not agreement-seeking.

## GPCO Forum

**Council => Proposal Voting => Topic started by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on March 12, 2017, 02:41:09 PM**

**Title: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**  
**Post by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on March 12, 2017, 02:41:09 PM**

Please read the proposal and keep comments on the topic of the proposal only. This proposal is moderated, and the GPCO Code of Conduct will apply (located here: <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=28.0>).

From the Bylaws, "4.3 All decisions concerning policy, finance, and objectives shall require consensus or a vote of at least 60% of the membership present at a state meeting and/or the Council."

As Agreement Seeking has failed and a BLOCK was communicated, please designate your vote by using the following terms: **YES or NO**.

There are currently twelve (12) active voting chapters in the Green Party of Colorado. Adoption of this proposal requires an AGREE of at least 60% of all votes cast and also requires a minimum quorum of at least one yes or no response from seven (7) chapters.

### Active Chapters

Jefferson County  
Adams County  
Arapahoe County  
Denver  
Douglas County  
Greater Boulder  
Pikes Peak  
Poudre Valley  
Mesa  
San Miguel  
Platte Valley  
Longmont

The floor is now open for one week of Voting, ending March 20, 2017 at 11.59 pm.

### 1. Basic Info

Date proposed: March 12, 2017

Name of the sponsors: Greater Boulder Green Party

### 2. Title:

Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office

### 3. Text of the actual Proposal:

To clarify officers term of office and remove obsolete material, the Bylaws of the Green Party of Colorado shall be amended as follows.

Replace Section 5.1 which currently reads, "In order to serve the growth of the GPCO and to

communicate our message, platform and values to the public, the GPCO will elect two state co-chairs to two year terms. Every effort shall be made to reach gender and geographic diversity." with the following text:

#### Quote

Officers shall be chosen at each annual state meeting held in odd number years to two year terms. The term of office begins immediately upon election and ends with the election of officers at the next odd year annual meeting. Every effort shall be made to reach gender and geographic diversity.

Delete Section 5.7 in its entirety. The section currently reads, "Co-chairs shall be chosen at each annual state meeting and other officers in odd number years to serve two year terms in office." This section is obsolete because co-chairs now serve two year terms.

#### 4. Background:

Greater Boulder Green Party seeks to clarify the length of service of the co-chairs.

#### 5. Justification/Goals:

Historically, terms of GPCO officers have run from annual meeting to annual meeting. This amendment simply codifies past practice, going back at least to 2007. An explicit reference to the co-chair term in the minutes from the state meeting in 2007 can be found at <http://coloradogreenparty.org/about/history/gpco-2007-state-meeting-minutes/>.

The meeting was held June 23-24, 2007, in Carbondale, Colorado. On Saturday, June 23, after a decision to change the co-chair terms from two years (which they were at that time) to one year, the following is found in the meeting minutes.

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11:15 a.m. Election of new state officers and national delegates and selection of webmaster and e-list manager Tom Kelly of the Arapahoe Greens and Dave Chandler of the Adams-Jefferson Greens volunteered to become co-chairs for the 07-08 term.

Agreement seeking resulted in a consensus for Kelly and Chandler as state co-chairs for approximately one year, beginning June 23 and until the next annual state meeting.

Dan Sage of the Arapahoe Greens volunteered to continue as state treasurer for the 07-09 term.

Agreement seeking resulted in a consensus for Sage as treasurer for approximately two years, beginning June 23 and until the annual state meeting of 2009.

Eric Fried of the Poudre Valley Greens volunteered to become state secretary for the 07-09 term.

Agreement seeking resulted in a consensus for Fried as secretary for approximately two years, beginning June 23 and until the annual state meeting of 2009.

This is an explicit description of a one-year term being approximately one year from the date of the election to the date of the following year's meeting. It is also an explicit description of a two-year term being approximately two years from the date of the election to the date of the meeting two years hence. Although the co-chair terms were reduced from two years to one year, the other offices continued with two-year terms, so both the one-year term and the two-year term are described in the minutes. The description of the term length is repeated for each office, so it does not seem to be a typo.

The 2008 meeting was held on May 3, so the nominal one-year term from the 2007 meeting (June 23) to the 2008 meeting (May 3) was approximately ten and a half months. The 2009 meeting was held in July by teleconference, no specific date available on the history page, so the nominal two-year term from the 2007 meeting (June 23) to the 2009 meeting (sometime in July) was several weeks longer than two years.

6. Pros and Cons:

Pros: There is no precedent for setting the annual meeting date based on the date the current officers were elected. Delaying the annual meeting, so as to put the desire of an officer to serve 24 months ahead of the needs of the party to organize for the 2018 election cycle, hurts the party's prospects for the 2018 election.

Cons:

7. Alternatives to the proposal:

8. References: **Moderator Note: This issue has already been corrected via Proposal 007-15: length of co-chair term (<http://gpcoco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=251.0>).**

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **Meral Sarper** on **March 12, 2017, 07:00:19 PM**

yes

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **Meral Sarper** on **March 12, 2017, 10:29:10 PM**

I withdraw my vote.

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **March 13, 2017, 03:28:43 AM**

Voting on this proposal is premature.

The proposal needs to be amended because bylaws changes passed in proposal 007-15 never got put into the bylaws correctly. Section 5.7 currently reads

Quote

5.7 Co-chairs shall be chosen at each annual state meeting . . . .

This is obviously incorrect.

Refer to <http://gpcoco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=321.msg1708#msg1708> for the amendment to fix section 5.7.

Andrea, please lock or remove this topic from the Proposal Voting board.

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **March 13, 2017, 10:43:30 AM**

Harry, please cast your vote. Your proposal went to agreement seeking and was blocked.

Thank you.

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **judyh** on **March 13, 2017, 01:04:31 PM**

Andrea, you were able to fix the part about the relevant section and the local versus state, after I pointed it out. Perhaps you can change the wording of the proposal to clear up this additional confusion that has surfaced. Considering the level of interest in this proposal, I think it is bound to end up in voting no matter what the wording is, so perhaps we should work on getting it right in this folder.

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **March 13, 2017, 01:05:42 PM**

It's already in voting. I've already made the updates to the bylaws that should have been made before Sean and I came on.

A block means it goes to voting.

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **judyh** on **March 13, 2017, 01:27:03 PM**

So the wording we are seeing contains all the fixes that need to be made in order to reflect the most up-to-date wording of the by-laws and the changes to the wording that would need to be made if the proposal passes? If so, thank you. Harry, do you agree that the wording is correct now?

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **March 13, 2017, 03:14:47 PM**

Quote from: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on March 13, 2017, 10:44:50 AM

I'll modify the proposal in voting with your text. I simply took what you originally submitted.

EDIT: I've modified the bylaws to reflect the change ratified with 007-15. I will not modify the proposal language, because it contains hyperbole.

To be clear, this is my text:

Quote from: Harry Hempy on March 13, 2017, 04:13:12 AM

5.7 Officers shall be chosen at each odd-year annual meeting to serve two-year terms, ending at the next odd-year annual meeting.

OK. I see the newly published bylaws on the website. I agree that the changes from proposal 007-15 are incorporated correctly and that sections 5.1 and 5.7 no longer conflict. So there is no need for changes to section 5.1.

But now the words "at each annual state meeting" are missing from section 5.7 and need to be reinserted. This is because proposal 007-15 inadvertently deleted the part about state party officers being chosen at annual meetings. I take full responsibility for the mistake because I submitted the wording for section 5.7 and accidentally deleted too many words.

This is the text to be voted on:

Quote

**5.7 Officers shall be chosen at each odd-year annual meeting to serve two-year terms, ending at the next odd-year annual meeting.**

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **Véronique Bellamy** on **March 13, 2017, 03:38:44 PM**

Considering the context of this proposal keeps changing, it is ill-defined. I'm casting a vote of NO.

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **March 13, 2017, 03:58:56 PM**

Harry, here's what I understand that you want this proposal to say:

Quote

3. Text of the actual Proposal:

To clarify officers term of office and remove obsolete material, the Bylaws of the Green Party of Colorado shall be amended as follows.

Replace Section 5.1 which currently reads, "In order to serve the growth of the GPCO and to communicate our message, platform and values to the public, the GPCO will elect two state co-chairs to two year terms. Every effort shall be made to reach gender and geographic diversity." with the following text:

Officers shall be chosen at each annual state meeting held in odd number years to two year terms. The term of office begins immediately upon election and ends with the election of officers at the next odd year annual meeting. Every effort shall be made to reach gender and geographic diversity.

Delete Section 5.7 in its entirety. The section currently reads, "Co-chairs shall be chosen at each annual state meeting and other officers in odd number years to serve two year terms in office." This section is obsolete because co-chairs now serve two year terms.

If this is true, then this has been captured accurately in the proposal that is now in Voting, and Larry's block stands.

If this is not true, then I'm very sorry, you will have to submit another proposal, and I suggest you withdraw this proposal altogether. We cannot keep massaging the substantive parts of your proposal midstream during voting.

Please advise.

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **March 13, 2017, 04:34:23 PM**

Andrea, Read your own post and my response at <http://gpcoco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=322.msg1720#msg1720> That is our understanding.

Reneging on your commitment, less than 6 hours old, to modify the proposal for voting is a highly objectionable action. I don't call what you are doing 'facilitation'. But if your intent is to sabotage this proposal by changing bylaws section 5.7 in the middle of voting, making

the text of the proposal obsolete, you are doing an excellent job.

Given the new bylaws, published today, the proposal to be voted on is simply to amend section 5.7 to read:

Quote

**5.7 Officers shall be chosen at each odd-year annual meeting to serve two-year terms, ending at the next odd-year annual meeting.**

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **March 13, 2017, 04:38:09 PM**

You need a new proposal. I'm not going to change a substantive portion of this proposal midstream.

Thank you.

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **March 13, 2017, 05:38:15 PM**

But you have no problem making a substantial change to section 5.7 of the bylaws, the very section to be amended by this proposal, on the first day of voting?

With today's publication of the bylaws on the website, our bylaws no longer require an annual meeting to elect officers. Passage of this amendment simply restores this important requirement.

So my vote is YES, to amend bylaws section 5.7 to read:

Quote

**5.7 Officers shall be chosen at each odd-year annual meeting to serve two-year terms, ending at the next odd-year annual meeting.**

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **March 13, 2017, 05:40:19 PM**

It's not an arbitrary, unilateral change on my part, Harry. It's a change that was not made when we voted back in 2015...and that includes you.

I am authorized to make that text change because it was already voted on.

I know you realize the distinction here.

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **Véronique Bellamy** on **March 13, 2017, 10:05:48 PM**

You know what? I don't even want to give this quorum. I'm retracting my vote.



Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **March 15, 2017, 11:06:39 PM**

Veronique,

I respect your decision not to participate in this vote. As a member of the newest local chapter you don't have personal experience to understand the background and motivation for this proposal.

And the proposal itself doesn't give you any background information to explain why the proposal is being presented. Andrea Merida, acting as facilitator for the proposal, censored the background information out of the proposal submitted by the Greater Boulder Green Party (GBGP) because she could not see its relevance.

Here is the censored portion of the GBGP proposal:

Quote

4. Background:

Since the co-chair wars in October 2016 Co-chair Andrea Merida has claimed she is entitled to 24 months in office. Andrea is using her position as council facilitator to block all proposals to have the 2017 annual meeting before she gets her full 24 months in. So now, four months after the 2016 election, GPCO Council is unable to set a date for the meeting because we have not agreed on when our officers' terms expire. All other political parties will have held their annual state meeting by the end of March.

Anyway, the bylaws published Monday (in section 5.7) don't require state party officers to be elected at annual meetings and don't guarantee Green Party affiliates in Colorado a vote for the state party officers. Earlier published bylaws required state officers to be elected at annual meetings, open to all registered Greens in Colorado. This is a clear deficiency in the newly published bylaws.

Passing this proposal to amend section 5.7 to read,

Quote

5.7 Officers shall be chosen **at each odd-year annual meeting** to serve two-year terms, ending at the next odd-year annual meeting.

would restore the original meaning of the section. I think it is important.

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **judyh** on **March 16, 2017, 09:52:04 AM**

Andrea, I request a one-week extension to the voting window. The Poudre Valley Greens are attempting to discuss and decide using an on-line process. Additional time would be appreciated.

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

Post by: **judyh** on **March 21, 2017, 12:41:36 PM**

Andrea, the Poudre Valley Green chapter has decided by majority vote not to participate in voting on the forum on this proposal, so there is no need to hold the window open for us. Thank you.

Title: **Re: VOTE: Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of**

## Office

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **March 21, 2017, 03:29:45 PM**

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The voting for this proposal is now ended, and with only one local participating, the proposal fails due to lack of quorum.

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## GPCO Forum

**Council => Proposal Agreement Seeking => Topic started by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on April 07, 2017, 11:28:55 PM**

**Title: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

**Post by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on April 07, 2017, 11:28:55 PM**

Please read the proposal and keep comments on the topic of the proposal only. This proposal is moderated, and the GPCO Code of Conduct will apply (located here: <http://gpcoco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=28.0>). Comments with hyperbolic statements or personal attacks will be edited or deleted.

Designate your vote by using the following terms: **AGREE, BLOCK, or STAND ASIDE**. Any blocks will require a vote of the council.

Per Section 4.3 of the GPCO Bylaws, "4.3 All decisions concerning policy, finance, and objectives shall require consensus or a vote of at least 60% of the membership present at a state meeting and/or the Council."

There are currently twelve (12) active voting chapters in the Green Party of Colorado. Adoption of this proposal requires an AGREE of at least 60% of all votes cast and also requires a minimum quorum of at least one response from seven (7) chapters.

Active Chapters  
Jefferson County  
Adams County  
Arapahoe County  
Denver  
Douglas County  
Greater Boulder  
Pikes Peak  
Poudre Valley  
Mesa  
San Miguel  
Platte Valley  
Longmont

The floor is now open for one week of Agreement Seeking, ending April 15, 2017 at 11.59 pm.

### 1. Basic Info

Date proposed: April 7, 2017

Name of the sponsor(s): Poudre Valley Green Party, Adams County Green Party, Mesa County Green Party, Longmont Green Party, Arapahoe County Green Party, Denver Green Party.

### 2. Title: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS

### 3. Text of the actual Proposal: **Change section 4.1.1 of the GPCO bylaws to read**

4.1.1. In order for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least

60% of local chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of Colorado not less than 90 days) equal to twice the number of local chapters represented. Exceptions apply to persons who have: become eligible to vote via new citizenship; or have been released from parole and have been re-granted their right to vote; or have recently reached voting age and have subsequently registered with the Green Party within the 90 day window.

For example, at a minimum, if there are 10 official Green Party chapters in Colorado, 6 chapters must be present at the state meeting, totaling 12 individuals.

After the 2017 state meeting, amend Section 4.1.1 to read

4.1.1. In order for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least 60% of local chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of Colorado not less than 180 days) equal to twice the number of local chapters represented. Exceptions apply to persons who have: become eligible to vote via new citizenship; or have been released from parole and have been re-granted their right to vote; or have recently reached voting age and have subsequently registered with the Green Party within the 90 day window.

4. Background: Though never specified in the bylaws or Procedures and Guidelines, tradition has held that a person could register Green on site at the state meeting and be eligible to vote at the meeting that day. This proposal brings order to the situation and provides locals with windows of organizing opportunity to reach out to new registered Greens and conduct orientation as they are able.

Additionally, given the passage of Proposition 108, even with the opt-out clause that parties can choose state assemblies as opposed to primaries for nominations, a lack of clarity around that new law could possibly draw unaffiliated voters to our state nomination conventions. We must ensure the integrity of our Green Party processes, and a minimum of 90 day registration (at first) and later 180 days registration after the 2017 GPCO state meeting, gives local parties a window to reach out to new voters and to provide orientation. The end result would be that our nominations and state party processes would more likely continue to be carried out according to Green values.

5. Justification/Goals: To maintain the integrity of Green values in our party processes.

6. Pros and Cons: A con could be that locals feel pressure to provide orientation for new Greens, but the state party can collaborate with locals to put together periodic webinars, etc. to relieve that pressure.

7. Alternatives to the proposal: No action. This action needs to be decided democratically, as opposed to an ad-hoc rule on site at a state meeting.

8. References: Currently, Section 4.1.1 reads, "4.1.1. In order for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least 60% of local chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of Colorado) equal to twice the number of local chapters represented."

"What you need to know about Proposition 108," The Denver Post:

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/09/22/colorado-proposition-108-unaffiliated-voters-primaries/>

Post by: **Sean Friend** on **April 08, 2017, 05:39:00 AM**

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Arapahoe is unanimously in agreement. My vote is AGREE.

Sean Friend, Arapahoe County

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **damiangonacgp** on **April 08, 2017, 05:32:03 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **V  ronique Bellamy** on **April 09, 2017, 12:56:16 AM**

While we haven't formalized our process for how we have delegates vote, half of the voting members of the Longmont chapter have affirmed their support for this motion, so I am casting a vote of AGREE.

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Andrew Hamilton** on **April 09, 2017, 02:29:38 PM**

Mesa is sponsoring this, but personally I agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Kevin Alumbaugh** on **April 09, 2017, 03:38:18 PM**

I'm sorry but I don't see the urgency in this registration requirement especially as it relates to Prop 108. Prop 108 allows unaffiliated voters to vote in party primaries and the GPCO has never had a primary. I don't see how 108 makes it any more likely that unaffiliated voters would try to influence or disrupt our nominating conventions. It has not been a problem in the past. I don't see how this registration requirement brings "order to the situation" or even what that means. There is a credentialing process at every meeting and I can't see how it would be any more orderly with this requirement. I cannot see how this proposal brings more "integrity to Green Party process" and which processes are being referred to. I also cannot see how these requirements make it more likely that our "nominations and state party processes would be more likely continued to be carried out according to Green values."

Would the sponsors of this proposal please elaborate on this and also what is meant by "windows of organizing opportunity."

Thank you.

Kevin Alumbaugh  
Greater Boulder Green Party

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Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Art Goodtimes** on **April 09, 2017, 04:14:43 PM**

as a veteran of government for the past 20 years, i think too much regulation can strangle operations.

why not allow a situation to develop in the future where a large voter drive before a state meeting brings in a wave of new members and they begin with an immediate voice in our party? yes, there is a danger of vote-packing by intra-party factions. but i think a permissive attitude to give new party members the franchise -- so long as they have a valid document from their county clerk as to their registration as a Green -- is a wiser course of action.

san miguel greens are a standaside  
art goodtimes, facilitator

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 09, 2017, 06:10:48 PM**

Art, your own vote is a stand aside. Is Jon Wontrobski no longer a delegate?

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **josh james** on **April 09, 2017, 08:28:30 PM**

agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Jason Justice** on **April 10, 2017, 11:53:36 AM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Brianna Friend** on **April 10, 2017, 01:18:50 PM**

Sean already stated our chapter vote, since we took one, but I still want to say: Agree

Arapahoe County

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **kcterry** on **April 11, 2017, 07:21:30 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Joseph Scardetta** on **April 12, 2017, 09:28:53 AM**

Agree

Platte Valley

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 12, 2017, 04:12:11 PM**

Members, with 8 of you voting one way or another, this proposal is at quorum.

As a reminder, the vote ends Saturday.

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **John Anderson** on **April 13, 2017, 10:00:55 AM**

AGREE

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Larry Dunn** on **April 13, 2017, 12:12:48 PM**

Agree. ACGP voted unanimously in agreement as well.

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Zach Heath** on **April 14, 2017, 10:42:30 AM**

I agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **April 14, 2017, 04:34:48 PM**

Two friendly amendments:

1. In this text,

Quote

There are currently twelve (12) active voting chapters in the Green Party of Colorado. Adoption of this proposal requires an AGREE of at least 60% of all votes cast and also requires a minimum quorum of at least one response from seven (7) chapters.

change "seven ( 7 )" to "eight ( 8 ).

2. In this text,

Quote

After the 2017 state meeting, amend Section 4.1.1 to read

4.1.1. In order for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least 60% of local chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of Colorado not less than 180 days) equal to twice the number of local chapters represented. Exceptions apply to persons who have: become eligible to vote via new citizenship; or have been released from parole and have been re-granted their right to vote; or have recently reached voting age and have subsequently registered with the Green Party within the 90 day window.

change "90" to "180".

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **April 14, 2017, 05:09:16 PM**

I have a couple problems with this proposal to create a six-month waiting period for new Greens before voting in state party meetings.

**Image:** If Council adopts this proposal the Green Party will become the only political party in Colorado to impose voting restrictions on members based on time in the party. This is a terrible image for a party that claims to be a grassroots democracy where everyone has a vote.

**Green Registrations:** In the years since I affiliated with the Green Party on May Day 2013, GPCO's primary goal has been to grow the number of registered Greens in Colorado. Dave Bell was elected co-chair last fall on a platform of 50,000+ Green Party registrations in two years. (there are currently around 12,000 registered Greens in Colorado)

How will future registration drives turn out when prospective party members are told, "We are a grassroots party; come join us; OH, but you won't get voting rights for six months"? As Art mentioned earlier, annual meetings are an opportunity to bring new people into the party; not turn them away. This is especially true of nominating meetings, where much of the attendance is from candidates' supporters.

In my view, this proposal will damage GPCO's ability to attract new members and function as a grassroots democracy. I would ask the new chapters to consider carefully before taking the party down this path.

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Zach Heath** on **April 14, 2017, 10:19:57 PM**

I'm retracting my vote in agreement. I stand aside on this proposal.

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Zach Heath** on **April 15, 2017, 10:48:39 AM**

My apologies for any confusion, I'm new as a delegate, I vote in favor AGREE as the PVgreens have reached a quorum in favor of this proposal.

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Kevin Alumbaugh** on **April 15, 2017, 12:08:12 PM**

Stand Aside

Kevin Alumbaugh  
Greater Boulder Green Party

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **April 15, 2017, 05:45:40 PM**



## BLOCK

The word "block" has a number of meanings, including:

**Normal:** In organizations that use a consensus process (think of Occupy) a person blocks to force discussion of proposals that they believe are contrary to organization's fundamental mission.

**GPCO:** In the GPCO agreement seeking process, the word "BLOCK" has been perverted to mean "end discussion". In our process any council member can shut down agreement seeking and end discussion of any proposal.

I posted my reasons for not agreeing with this proposal on April 14. And I cannot bring myself to stand aside and watch the party become more exclusive, more protective of its ideological purity, and more paranoid. The remaining option is to block.

Title: **Re: Proposal 003-17: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 15, 2017, 05:47:59 PM**

Ok, everyone: Harry has blocked, so we will move to voting. Please watch for the post on the voting page. I will also then lock this thread to avoid confusion.

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## GPCO Forum

**Council => Proposal Voting => Topic started by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on April 15, 2017, 06:06:08 PM**

**Title: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**  
**Post by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on April 15, 2017, 06:06:08 PM**

Please read the proposal and keep comments on the topic of the proposal only. This proposal is moderated, and the GPCO Code of Conduct will apply (located here: <http://gpcoco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=28.0>). Comments with hyperbolic statements or personal attacks will be edited or deleted.

Please read the proposal, and confine any comments to this proposal only. Designate your wishes by using **"agree", "disagree", or "stand aside"**.

Per Section 4.3 of the GPCO Bylaws, "4.3 All decisions concerning policy, finance, and objectives shall require consensus or a vote of at least 60% of the membership present at a state meeting and/or the Council."

There are currently twelve (12) active voting chapters in the Green Party of Colorado. Adoption of this proposal requires an AGREE of at least 60% of all votes cast and also requires a minimum quorum of at least one response from seven (7) chapters.

Active Chapters  
 Jefferson County  
 Adams County  
 Arapahoe County  
 Denver  
 Douglas County  
 Greater Boulder  
 Pikes Peak  
 Poudre Valley  
 Mesa  
 San Miguel  
 Platte Valley  
 Longmont

The floor is now open for one week of voting, ending April 22, 2017 at 6:10 pm.

### 1. Basic Info

Date proposed: April 15, 2017

Name of the sponsor(s): Poudre Valley Green Party, Adams County Green Party, Mesa County Green Party, Longmont Green Party, Arapahoe County Green Party, Denver Green Party.

### 2. Title: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS

### 3. Text of the actual Proposal: Change section 4.1.1 of the GPCO bylaws to read

4.1.1. In order for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least 60% of local chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of Colorado not less than 90 days) equal to twice the number

of local chapters represented. Exceptions apply to persons who have: become eligible to vote via new citizenship; or have been released from parole and have been re-granted their right to vote; or have recently reached voting age and have subsequently registered with the Green Party within the 90 day window.

For example, at a minimum, if there are 10 official Green Party chapters in Colorado, 6 chapters must be present at the state meeting, totaling 12 individuals.

After the 2017 state meeting, amend Section 4.1.1 to read

4.1.1. In order for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least 60% of local chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of Colorado not less than 180 days) equal to twice the number of local chapters represented. Exceptions apply to persons who have: become eligible to vote via new citizenship; or have been released from parole and have been re-granted their right to vote; or have recently reached voting age and have subsequently registered with the Green Party within the 180 day window.

4. Background: Though never specified in the bylaws or Procedures and Guidelines, tradition has held that a person could register Green on site at the state meeting and be eligible to vote at the meeting that day. This proposal brings order to the situation and provides locals with windows of organizing opportunity to reach out to new registered Greens and conduct orientation as they are able.

Additionally, given the passage of Proposition 108, even with the opt-out clause that parties can choose state assemblies as opposed to primaries for nominations, a lack of clarity around that new law could possibly draw unaffiliated voters to our state nomination conventions. We must ensure the integrity of our Green Party processes, and a minimum of 90 day registration (at first) and later 180 days registration after the 2017 GPCO state meeting, gives local parties a window to reach out to new voters and to provide orientation. The end result would be that our nominations and state party processes would more likely continue to be carried out according to Green values.

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7. Alternatives to the proposal: No action. This action needs to be decided democratically, as opposed to an ad-hoc rule on site at a state meeting.

8. References: Currently, Section 4.1.1 reads, "4.1.1. In order for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least 60% of local chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of Colorado) equal to twice the number of local chapters represented."

"What you need to know about Proposition 108," The Denver Post:

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/09/22/colorado-proposition-108-unaffiliated-voters-primaries/>

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Amanda "Tink" Trujillo** on **April 15, 2017, 06:14:12 PM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Jason Justice** on **April 15, 2017, 06:23:54 PM**

This vote is against non-intersectional Democrat party ideals and false, do nothing liberalism. This Green party member from Denver County will not be complicit in the genocidal practices of the duopoly. Agree.

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **dharless** on **April 15, 2017, 06:28:49 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **ETroe** on **April 15, 2017, 07:01:45 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **damiangonacgp** on **April 15, 2017, 07:03:03 PM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Andrew Hamilton** on **April 15, 2017, 09:32:15 PM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Chris Allen** on **April 15, 2017, 10:12:03 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **April 16, 2017, 08:03:37 AM**

BLOCK

There are a number of defects in this proposal. The first two were introduced by the facilitator when moving the proposal from Agreement Seeking to Proposal Voting. The last two existed in the Agreement Seeking version of the proposal and are carried over in the Proposal Voting version. Friendly amendments were offered during Agreement Seeking to fix the last two defects. (see <http://gpcO.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=332.msg1838#msg1838>). The sponsors of this proposal did not act on either amendment.

1. "Proposal 003-17" is missing from the topic title.
2. The voting instructions are wrong. The voting options on the Proposal Voting board are Yes, No, and Abstain; not AGREE, STAND ASIDE, AND BLOCK.
3. The quorum requirement is wrong. I believe Judy Harrington's analysis which was censored out of the discussion is correct (see attachment). Adoption of this proposal requires a Yes or No vote by at least one representative from 75% of the chapters, i.e., 9 chapters (Procedures and Guidelines section 3.5.6).
4. There is a typographical error in the text of the proposal. "90" needs to be changed to "180" in the following text:

Quote

After the 2017 state meeting, amend Section 4.1.1 to read

4.1.1. In order for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least 60% of local chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of Colorado not less than 180 days) equal to twice the number of local chapters represented. Exceptions apply to persons who have: become eligible to vote via new citizenship; or have been released from parole and have been re-granted their right to vote; or have recently reached voting age and have subsequently registered with the Green Party within the 90 day window.

I will remove my block when these defects are fixed.

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Roberta Ayala** on **April 16, 2017, 08:54:01 AM**

Agree

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 16, 2017, 09:50:34 AM**

Your block doesn't stand here anymore. We are here because your blocked before.

Now it's time to vote.

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **kcterry** on **April 16, 2017, 03:56:07 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Sean Friend** on **April 17, 2017, 09:16:06 AM**

Agree

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Larry Dunn** on **April 17, 2017, 09:22:57 AM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Shane McDonnell** on **April 17, 2017, 04:09:17 PM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **John Anderson** on **April 17, 2017, 05:23:20 PM**

AGREE

Title: **Re: VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Art Goodtimes** on **April 18, 2017, 02:00:47 PM**

disagree

making it more difficult for new Green Party members to vote at our annual meeting goes against all the past inclusive policies of the Green Party of Colorado for the 18 years i've been a member

art goodtimes

san miguel greens

Title: **VOTE: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING AT GPCO STATE MEETINGS**

Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **April 18, 2017, 03:51:31 PM**

Disagree

This is moving the Colorado Green Party toward being a most un-welcoming party. It also sets a double standard: 90 days now to apply only for the current "administration", 180 days after the state meeting. Going from same day registration to 180 days is a drastic move that will have negative consequences.

While over 8 chapters have weighed in, The wording must be changed to reflect the fact that a quorum is a MINIMUM of 60%. 7 chapters is 58.33% and does not meet the minimum. Therefore a quorum requires 8 chapters.

The "Exceptions" have not been defined. What are the excepted groups allowed to do, or how are they counted. What is the purpose?

## GPCO Forum

**Council => Proposal Agreement Seeking => Topic started by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on April 08, 2017, 01:43:45 AM**

**Title: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
**Post by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on April 08, 2017, 01:43:45 AM**

Please read the proposal and keep comments on the topic of the proposal only. This proposal is moderated, and the GPCO Code of Conduct will apply (located here: <http://gpcoco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=28.0>). Comments with hyperbolic statements or personal attacks will be edited or deleted.

Designate your vote by using the following terms: AGREE, BLOCK, or STAND ASIDE. Any blocks will require a vote of the council.

Per Section 4.1 of the GPCO bylaws, "State meetings will be held yearly or more frequently at a location agreed upon by the members at the previous meeting, or by a special call of the Council at its discretion.

Also per section 4.2.3. of the GPCO bylaws, "The Council sets the agenda for the state meetings..."

There are currently twelve (12) active voting chapters in the Green Party of Colorado. Adoption of this proposal requires an AGREE of at least 60% of all votes cast and also requires a minimum quorum of at least one response from seven (7) chapters.

Active Chapters  
 Jefferson County  
 Adams County  
 Arapahoe County  
 Denver  
 Douglas County  
 Greater Boulder  
 Pikes Peak  
 Poudre Valley  
 Mesa  
 San Miguel  
 Platte Valley  
 Longmont

The floor is now open for one week of Agreement Seeking, ending April 15, 2017 at 11.59 pm.

Basic Information:

1. Date Proposed: April 7, 2017
2. Names of the sponsors: Dave Bell and Andrea Merida Cuellar, co-chairs, GPCO
3. Title: Date and Tentative Agenda of 2017 State Meeting
4. Text of the actual proposal: The 2017 GPCO Annual State Meeting date and tentative agenda are as below.

The date of the state meeting will be **August 12, 2017**.

The location will either be in Denver or Littleton, depending on space availability and cost of venue, to be announced no later than May 12, 2017.

Given the difficulty and expense of travel from Grand Junction, a grant of up to \$400 will be offered to the Mesa County Green Party to cover travel expenses for four (4) delegates to attend the meeting. Front range party members are requested to step forward to offer any home stay lodging to help defray travel expenses.

The agenda will be finalized via friendly amendments offered at a forum workgroup to be created, entitled "2017 Annual Meeting Workgroup."

## Tentative Agenda

### Quote

9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Sign-in / Credentialing Pre-registration and on-site credentialing will be administered by the Secretary.
9:45 a.m. - 10 a.m.	Convene Meeting – State Co-Chairs Welcome from Local Chapter Host/Logistics Agenda Review and Adoption
10 am - 10:30 am	Credentials Report and Establishment of Quorum
10:30 am - 11 am	Chapter Introductions and Reports, Unaffiliated Greens introductions
11 am - 11:15 am	Reports from State Party Officers Report from Statewide Youth Coordinator Report from Political Director
11:15 - 11:30 am	Annual Meeting Review / Proposals adopted by Council
11:30 - 12:30 pm	Election of State Officers: 2 Co-Chairs, Treasurer, Secretary, 2 National Representatives
12:30 - 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 - 2 pm	Discussion: Whether to Run a Gubernatorial Candidate in 2018 Vote: Will the Green Party of Colorado focus on local and legislative candidacies, instead of the governor's race.
2 pm - 2:30 pm	Resolutions and Proposals
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Discussion: Chapters report back on implementation of Section 3.1 of the Bylaws.
3:30 pm - 3:45 pm	Acknowledge Volunteers
3:45 pm - 4:30 pm	Wrap up / Future Business Local and State Legislature Candidates
4:30 p.m.	Adjourn

Nominations for officers will be open beginning July 15, 2017 and ending July 31, 2017.

Nominations may be made by any member of the GPCO council considered in good standing by their local, by state officers or by chapter co-chairs. Self nominations may also be made. Nominees must have been registered as a Green for at least 6 months, accept the 10 Key Values and upon acceptance of the nomination, agree to support the presidential nominee and any nominated candidates as selected by the Green Party of the United States (GPUS).

Nominations must be submitted by email to the GPCO secretary and posted on the council General Discussion forum within 24 hours of receipt, including a description of the position as delineated in the GPCO bylaws or Procedures and Guidelines, as applicable. The deadline



for all nominations is 9 pm on Saturday, July 15, 2017. The official Call for Nominations will also be posted on the GPCO website and social media and/or email lists or listservs, as well as distributed to each chapter for dissemination.

5. Background: per our bylaws, we are to have an annual meeting, and officers are to be elected every two years.

6. Justification/Goals: to satisfy requirements under the bylaws

7. Pros/Cons: This meeting ensures the democratic handling of business and appointment of leadership.

8. Alternatives to this proposal: None

9. References: Bylaws of the Green Party of Colorado

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Véronique Bellamy** on **April 08, 2017, 07:13:54 AM**

Agree, because I'm jiggy with it. :)

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **damiangonacgp** on **April 08, 2017, 05:33:54 PM**

Agree!

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **josh james** on **April 09, 2017, 12:08:55 AM**

agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Andrew Hamilton** on **April 09, 2017, 02:28:37 PM**

Agree, and thank you!

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **April 09, 2017, 03:56:33 PM**

I would ask the sponsors to temporarily withdraw proposal 004-17 and resubmit when agreement seeking/voting has been completed on proposal 003-17.

Our Procedures and guidelines discourage simultaneous votes on proposals. The complexity caused from running simultaneous proposals can be confusing to Council members and lead to mistakes.

We don't want to repeat the debacle Council had in September, 2016.

Proposal 003-16 was in agreement seeking when proposals 004-16 and 005-16 were submitted. Bob Kinsey mistakenly blocked ColoradoCare when he intended to block Bill's recall. Here is the sequence of events:

8/31: Proposal 003-16 to endorse ColoradoCare Amendment 69, sponsored by Bill Bartlett

and Susan Hall, began agreement seeking.

9/1: Adams County Greens adopted bylaws to separate from the Adams/Jefferson chapter.

9/5 to 9/8: Proposal 004-16 to recognize Adams County, sponsored by Andrea Merida, was submitted and agreed to.

9/22: Proposal 005-16 to recall Bill Bartlett, sponsored by Poudre Valley and Arapahoe chapters, was submitted.

9/23: Bob Kinsey blocked proposal 003-16 (ColoradoCare) by accident. He had intended to block proposal 005-16. It took until October 20 to discover the mistake and realize GPCO had agreed to endorse ColoradoCare!

We should also wait to consider 004-17 until 003-17 is done because the length of the waiting period for new members (003-17) will affect how soon the annual meeting can be held (004-17).

By the way, it would be good to state a policy on sequencing proposals through agreement seeking. First-come-first-served?

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**

Post by: **Art Goodtimes** on **April 09, 2017, 04:28:14 PM**

we're glad to see the date and place set  
but we wonder if we couldn't use this agreement-seeking time to discuss the date and place in more detail  
can the proponents explain to us why the date and place were chosen?  
thank you.

san miguel greens  
art goodtimes, facilitator

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 09, 2017, 06:05:04 PM**

Art, the lion's share of members live in the Front Range. It's more environmentally sound for us to bring a few folks into the Front Range than in having 100 people travel to the Western Slope. This also would have the potential to drastically cut down on participation because of the distance.

If you have other ideas that are easily accessible to the most, I'm willing to consider them. Also, if San Miguel needs help getting out her, I'm willing to amend the proposal to assist you all as well.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 10, 2017, 07:49:58 AM**

Members are reminded to keep comments on topic to this proposal.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**

Post by: **Art Goodtimes** on **April 10, 2017, 11:37:32 AM**

thank you, andrea. i have no problem with the state meeting being on the front range,  
Evidence

although for the 19 years i've been a party member, geographic balance was an important focus and policy, so that we tried to alternate where we met.

but i'm concerned about a frank and open discussion among council members on where and when.

to that end, i'm confused why you chose to remove this post from one of our members without an explanation, other than your personal belief that it was off-topic. referring us to previous discussions of the time and place would seem to me to be on topic for this proposal. it's hard to participate in an agreement-seeking process when removal of comments rather than discussion of comments occurs. please explain.

removed comment:

Title: Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting  
 Post by: Harry Hempy on April 10, 2017, 07:45:51 AM  
 Art, the date was discussed on the forum in December 2016 and January 2017 at <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=308.msg1551#msg1551>  
 At any rate, please read the  
 History of GPCO Annual Meeting Dates and Locations (Read 110 times)  
 at <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=308.msg1551#msg1551>

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
 Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 10, 2017, 11:38:47 AM**

Because it's not germane to the post.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
 Post by: **Art Goodtimes** on **April 10, 2017, 11:43:13 AM**

andrea

i must respectfully disagree.

we are in agreement-seeking to confirm a date and place for the state meeting, and harry's post is about exactly that -- the date and place of the meeting. while you may not agree with his comment or post, it is not appropriate to censor his post so other council members cannot read it.

please explain the reason for the date.

the place you explained, but not the date.

thank you,

art goodtimes  
 san miguel greens

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
 Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 10, 2017, 11:45:40 AM**

I am noting that you disagree. The fact remains that members should take their own initiative to keep up to date with the discussions here. All these posts have been

announced via email, and to confuse this discussion with a completely different one is disruptive.

This date is closer to the two-year mark for elections.

What is your concern about this date?

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**

Post by: **Jason Justice** on **April 10, 2017, 11:52:38 AM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**

Post by: **Brianna Friend** on **April 10, 2017, 01:14:59 PM**

Agree and looking forward to it!

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**

Post by: **Sean Friend** on **April 10, 2017, 02:18:32 PM**

Our chapter is also in agreement on this proposal. My vote is Agree.

As a side note, I don't see a problem with running the two proposals at once. While there was some confusion last fall related to two different proposals, there's certainly precedence for having multiple proposals running consecutively without issue.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**

Post by: **judyh** on **April 11, 2017, 09:07:52 AM**

I am surprised to see that the location will be in the Denver metropolitan area. At a Poudre Valley Greens meeting in January, we were discussing the advisability of holding the annual meeting on the Western Slope in Grand Junction and Dave Bell himself assured us that "plans are already underway" at the state level for holding the annual meeting in Grand Junction.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**

Post by: **Kevin Alumbaugh** on **April 11, 2017, 11:37:02 AM**

In the opening paragraph of this proposal the following excerpts fro the bylaws were included:

Per Section 4.1 of the GPCO bylaws, "State meetings will be held yearly or more frequently at a location agreed upon by the members at the previous meeting, or by a special call of the Council at its discretion.

Also per section 4.2.3. of the GPCO bylaws, "The Council sets the agenda for the state meetings..."

I did not see any discussion on the state council as to the specific date of the state meeting. It has been customary in the past to have a discussion of the date of the state meeting in the proposal drafting stage with several possible dates considered so that council members can weigh in on what dates work for them in an effort to ensure that a date is determined that works for as many council members as possible. August 12th is virtually

the only date over the summer that I cannot attend due to a long-planned vacation/reunion.

I also did not see any council discussion of the agenda. The text of the proposal lists the agenda as "tentative." Does this mean that it is still open for discussion? If so I move that this proposal be moved to the proposal drafting board so that both items can be discussed further.

Also I did not see Council Facilitator listed in list of officers to be elected at the meeting. Was this an oversight?

Thank you.

Kevin Alumbaugh  
Greater Boulder Green Party

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 11, 2017, 02:41:34 PM**

Kevin, the agenda is in fact listed here as "tentative," because the process for finalization is delineated in the proposal:

**"The agenda will be finalized via friendly amendments offered at a forum workgroup to be created, entitled "2017 Annual Meeting Workgroup."**

I'm happy to entertain your friendly amendment regarding the date. What is your suggestion?

If you are not able to attend, I would suggest that GBGP adopt some sort of proxy arrangement and ratify it in your bylaws, so that your voice can be heard.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **April 11, 2017, 04:11:44 PM**

There is a calculation error in the introductory material of this proposal. With 12 chapters, adoption of this proposal requires a vote from eight chapters; not seven chapters.

I would ask the facilitator to update/amend the proposal accordingly.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 11, 2017, 04:13:45 PM**

Yeah, you're probably right, Harry.

I copied from your last proposal, and I thought rounding down from 7.2 would be more fair to you.  $12 \times .60 = 7.2$

Either way.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Kevin Alumbaugh** on **April 11, 2017, 05:54:37 PM**

My apologies for missing that sentence.

However due to a lack of council discussion on the specific date I Disagree.

Kevin Alumbaugh  
Greater Boulder Green Party

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **April 11, 2017, 07:07:42 PM**

Thanks, Andrea. Please change 7 to 8 in the introductory material.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 11, 2017, 10:56:22 PM**

No, let's just let this play out. 7.2 does not round up to 8 in anyone's math, to be honest.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Joseph Scardetta** on **April 12, 2017, 09:31:13 AM**

Agree

Platte Valley

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 12, 2017, 05:01:56 PM**

Harry, you are reminded yet again to keep your comments in line with the proposal and according to the code of conduct of this forum.

Personal attacks are not allowed. Ask clarifying questions, offer friendly amendments, or vote. Those are your options.

EDIT: you may disagree and say why as well, as long as they comport with the code of conduct.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Karyna Lemus** on **April 12, 2017, 06:19:45 PM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 12, 2017, 06:32:46 PM**

Folks, now with 8 votes either way from locals, we are now at quorum.

As a reminder, this proposal ends on Saturday night.

Thank you.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **April 13, 2017, 07:14:25 AM**

Quote from: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on April 11, 2017, 02:41:34 PM

. . . I would suggest that GBGP adopt some sort of proxy arrangement and ratify it in your bylaws . . . .

It would be disastrous to allow each chapter to make up their own proxy rules for state meetings. The Greater Boulder Green Party, or any chapter, could show up at annual meeting with hundreds of proxies from Greens living in the chapter's boundaries.

GPCO Bylaws are silent on the subject of using proxies at annual meetings. Maybe we need a bylaws change to explicitly disallow proxy voting at state level general membership meetings. But for now for proposal 004-17, I offer this friendly amendment:

Add the following note to the tentative agenda: **Members may attend the 2017 annual meeting in person or remotely. There will be no voting by proxy.**

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 13, 2017, 08:38:07 AM**

GBGP could restrict proxies to only council delegates.

I would prefer to handle the matter of proxies outside of this proposal, in the same way the issue of length of time as a registered Green is being handled by a separate proposal.

This proposal only deals with one meeting, so it would be inappropriate for such a change here.

Besides, decentralization. If GBGP wants proxies, they can have them for their council members if they wish.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**

Post by: **John Anderson** on **April 13, 2017, 10:11:42 AM**

AGREE

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**

Post by: **Larry Dunn** on **April 13, 2017, 12:09:54 PM**

Agree.

Larry Dunn  
ACGP

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **April 13, 2017, 03:31:17 PM**

Ok. I agree with the sponsors that amending this proposal with a statement about proxies would be inappropriate.

But I disagree with the statement, "If GBGP wants proxies, they can have them".

The suggestion about proxies on April 11 -

Quote

If you are not able to attend, I would suggest that GBGP adopt some sort of proxy arrangement and ratify it in your bylaws, so that your voice can be heard.

- has taken the discussion off subject.

Clarifying question: Who made this statement? Council Facilitator? Forum Moderator? A Co-chair? Someone with a personal opinion?

There is no basis in state bylaws for proxies.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Zach Heath** on **April 14, 2017, 10:40:46 AM**

I agree. And I'm glad that people who are traveling from the western slope can get assistance with travel expenses, also that Andrea is appears willing to give some flexibility with the date so the most people can attend.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **April 14, 2017, 04:01:25 PM**

Quote from: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on April 11, 2017, 02:41:34 PM

. . .  
I'm happy to entertain your friendly amendment regarding the date. What is your suggestion?  
. . .

The Greater Boulder Green Party has always suggested the odd-year annual meeting be held as early in the election cycle as feasible. That is still our position.

All other political parties in Colorado have already had their annual state party meetings and have elected officers. The Green Party is still figuring out a date.

In early February the Greater Boulder Green Party proposed an annual meeting in May in the following letter to GPCO co-chairs. The goal of the proposal is for the Green Party of Colorado to plan and organize for the 2018 election cycle sooner (18 months before the 2018 general election), rather than later.

The GBGP proposal, dated February 9, should have been presented to Council in February. The GBGP proposal should also have been presented to Council before proposal 004-17, dated April 7.

Quote from: Harry Hempy on February 12, 2017, 10:44:24 PM

Dear GPCO Co-chairs, Andrea Merida and Dave Bell,

Please begin the agreement-seeking process for the following proposal. . . .

Sincerely,  
Harry Hempy, Co-chair, Greater Boulder Greens

### **Set Date and Location of 2017 GPCO Annual Meeting**

This is proposal 00?-17 to set a date and location for the 2017 GPCO Annual Meeting.

Please read the proposal and keep comments on the topic of the proposal only. Please suggest any amendments or additions for discussion.

Designate your vote by using the following terms: AGREE, BLOCK, or STAND ASIDE. Any blocks will require a vote of the council.

A quorum of 60% requires at least one response from (7) chapters. There are currently 11 active voting chapters in the Green Party of Colorado:



Adams  
Jefferson  
Arapahoe County  
Denver  
Douglas  
Greater Boulder  
Mesa  
Pikes Peak  
Platte Valley  
Poudre Valley  
San Miguel

The floor is now open for one week of Agreement Seeking (??/??/17 to ??/??/17).

**1. Date Proposed:** 02/09/17

**2. Title:** Set Date and Location of 2017 GPCO Annual Meeting

**Sponsors:** Harry Hempy, Judy Harrington, Kevin Alumbaugh, Scott Lupo, Susan Hall, Tom Hall, Carolyn Brinski

**3. Text:** As a result of discussion of the **History of GPCO Annual Meeting Dates and Locations** at <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=308.0> (<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=308.0>) Council hereby sets the date of 2017 GPCO Annual meeting to be May 6, 2017 and the location to be Grand Junction, Colorado.

**4. Background:** From Dec. 3, 2016 to Jan 20, 2017 several members of GPCO discussed the location and date of the 2017 GPCO Annual Meeting. Conclusions from that discussion are as follows:

- Location: Preference is for a location with an active chapter. Grand Junction was suggested as a western slope location with a new chapter. Mesa Greens would be happy to host, per Andrew Hamilton.
- Date: Strong preference is for May. Snow was a concern for March and April.
- Term of Office: Andrea Merida's claim that she is entitled to a 24-month term as co-chair was discussed, without a resolution. This question will be the subject of a vote at the annual meeting.

You can read the full conversation in the topic **History of GPCO Annual Meeting Dates and Locations** at <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=308.0> (<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=308.0>)

Dave Bell is completing the term of Bill Bartlett.

**5. Goals/Justification:** The purpose of the odd-year annual meeting is to adopt plans and elect officers for the 2018 election cycle. Republicans, Democrats, and Libertarians are all having their annual meetings in March.

The goal of this proposal is for the Green Party of Colorado to plan and organize for the 2018 election cycle sooner (18 months before the 2018 general election), rather than later.

This proposal complies with bylaws section 4.2.3 on Council responsibilities.

**6. Alternatives to the proposal:**

May 13 or May 20 would be acceptable alternative dates.

Holding a two-day meeting, say from noon Saturday to afternoon Sunday, would be an acceptable alternative.

How do GPCO co-chairs justify ignoring proposals from Council members and chapters, for months at a time, and then jumping their own proposals to the top of the list?

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 14, 2017, 04:05:05 PM**

Already asked and answered. Please refer to the questions and answers to/from Kevin and Art.

You are being needlessly combative. If you wish to vote no, you are welcome to do so.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**

Evidence

Page 108

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **April 14, 2017, 04:07:30 PM**

NO is not an option.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 14, 2017, 04:10:10 PM**

Still being combative.

Please refer to the instructions in the proposal.

You know what your choices are. Please pick one, and end the combat. Your next such posts will be deleted.

This is now the FOURTH time your behavior on this forum has had to be addressed.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Zach Heath** on **April 14, 2017, 10:18:31 PM**

I retract my vote in agreement, I'm standing aside on this proposal.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Chris Allen** on **April 15, 2017, 10:08:50 PM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Art Goodtimes** on **April 17, 2017, 01:25:21 PM**

standing aside  
artg  
san miguel

Title: **Re: Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 17, 2017, 10:01:37 PM**

Ok, folks: excluding any votes that came in after midnight on Saturday, April 15, 2017, the results are:

13 Agrees  
1 Disagree

I'll go ahead and create that new forum to work out the agenda, and as stated, we can consider FRIENDLY amendments. That new discussion area is here:  
<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?board=55.0>

To assist in what a "friendly amendment" is, please read: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Friendly\\_amendment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Friendly_amendment)

Quote

"...a friendly amendment is an amendment to a motion under debate that is perceived by all parties as an **enhancement** to the original motion, often only as clarification of intent. However, these amendments are to be treated like other amendments." (emphasis mine)

Thanks to all for your participation.

Title: <b>Proposal 004-17: Date and Agenda Setting of 2017 State Meeting</b> Post by: <b>Michael Haughey</b> on <b>April 23, 2017, 05:06:40 PM</b>
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I would like to add August 5 as a date for consideration.

Michael Haughey  
JC Greens

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## GPCO Forum

**Council => Private Council Discussion => Topic started by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on February 09, 2017, 02:56:58 PM**

Title: **State meeting will be late July or August 2017**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 09, 2017, 02:56:58 PM**

Team, there has been a flurry of activity regarding the date of the state meeting. To reiterate, we will be scheduling it for July or August 2017, and all officer positions will be up for re-election at that time.

You are welcome to offer a preference of dates within those months, as well as a location. As we get closer to the date, Dave and I will pull together a planning team to work on logistical details.

Thank you!

Title: **Re: State meeting will be late July or August 2017**

Post by: **judyh** on **February 09, 2017, 11:22:51 PM**

Regarding paragraph 3.5.3 of the procedures,

"3.5.3. The Council will discuss via email issues raised among its representatives or by any Green Party member who participates. Any councilmember or Committee may submit a proposal to the convener or facilitator for discussion. Appointed state representatives of local chapters will have the ability to make proposals to the State Council directly under the following conditions:"

There are two paths for submitting proposals. One path is to submit the proposal to the convener/facilitator. There are no conditions attached to this path. The other path is to submit the proposal to the State Council directly, and this path has conditions attached to it. Five councilmembers have submitted a proposal to the facilitator for discussion. Will the Colorado Green Party follow its own rules and put the proposal up for discussion?

Judy Harrington  
Co-Chair, Poudre Valley Green Party

Title: **Re: State meeting will be late July or August 2017**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 09, 2017, 11:57:47 PM**

Judy, the material part of 3.5.3 is the following, which I have bolded for emphasis:

3.5.3. The Council will discuss via email issues raised among its representatives or by any Green Party member who participates. Any councilmember or Committee may submit a proposal to the convener or facilitator for discussion. Appointed state representatives of local chapters will have the ability to make proposals to the State Council directly under the following conditions:  
**1. That the proposal be made by the representative and two more members of the**

**local chapter,  
one of those members being an elected or appointed officer of that local chapter.**

The proposal is out of order, and as I have instructed the presenters of the proposal, you can resubmit once you meet that threshold.

The entire document is here, for everyone's perusal: <http://coloradogreenparty.org/wp-content/uploads/2007/10/PG-20041.pdf>

Thank you.

Title: **Re: State meeting will be late July or August 2017**  
Post by: **judyh** on **February 10, 2017, 10:01:25 AM**

The material part is who can submit via what channel and whether there are conditions attached. There are no conditions attached to councilmembers submitting a proposal to the facilitator. The conditions are attached to appointed state representatives making a proposal directly to the state council.

Five councilmembers have submitted a proposal to the facilitator for discussion. This is the channel that has no conditions attached.

Title: **Re: State meeting will be late July or August 2017**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 10, 2017, 10:07:52 AM**

"Five members" refers to proposals for the state meeting. At that point, five separate members could bring a proposal.

Because you are attempting to bring a proposal within the council, however, 3.5.3, item 1, applies.

Again, one your proposal has reached the 3.5.3 threshold, you all may resubmit.

Thanks.

Title: **Re: State meeting will be late July or August 2017**  
Post by: **judyh** on **February 10, 2017, 10:39:16 AM**

Thank you for pointing out a potential point of confusion. I did not intend the "five councilmembers" to refer to anything except the number of councilmembers who have signed on as co-sponsors.

3.5.3 does not specify any particular number of councilmembers (beyond one) who may submit a proposal to the facilitator for discussion. The wording "any councilmember" is structured to allow one (obviously the minimum number) councilmember to submit. I assume that two, three, four, five, or any number in addition to one would not invalidate the submission. In this case there are five co-sponsors. I do not intend any additional significance to the number.

Item 1 is attached by a colon to proposals that are made to the state council directly, without the involvement of the facilitator. Proposals submitted to the facilitator are not conditioned upon item 1. Note the period at the end of the sentence describing submission to the facilitator, in contrast to the colon that connects the conditions to the pathway of direct presentation.

Title: **Re: State meeting will be late July or August 2017**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 10, 2017, 10:41:26 AM**

There is no confusion.

Please resubmit your proposal under the correct parameters.

Thank you.

Title: **Re: State meeting will be late July or August 2017**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **February 10, 2017, 10:13:06 PM**

Andrea,

I will resubmit our proposal for the annual meeting to be held on May 6 with more co-signers, as you request.

But I am baffled by your ruling that the proposal, with five co-sponsors, is out of order. Please reread Judy's comments about rule 3.5.3 carefully.

Rules section 3.5.3 has NEVER been used to require three members from the same chapter to co-sponsor a proposal. Of the 17 proposals considered in 2015 and 2016, only 2 proposals, 005-16 and 007-16, met that requirement.

Do you, as Council Facilitator, intend to start enforcing rule 3.5.3 consistently?

Harry Hempy, Co-chair, Greater Boulder Greens

Title: **Re: State meeting will be late July or August 2017**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 10, 2017, 11:29:01 PM**

Every single proposal that has been entered into Agreement Seeking since the time I became co-chair, approximately August 2015, has comported fully with our procedures.

The procedures call for council proposals to have the sponsorship of locals or state party officers.

Please resubmit your proposal according to the parameters I have delineated above, which are completely consistent with our procedures.

Thank you.

Title: **Re: State meeting will be late July or August 2017**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 10, 2017, 11:31:51 PM**

As we are all now clear on the required parameters for submitting proposals within the council, this topic is now closed. Thank you all for your questions.

## GPCO Forum

**Colorado Greens Discussion => General Discussion => Topic started by: Harry Hempy on December 03, 2016, 08:03:40 PM**

**Title: History of GPCO Annual Meeting Dates and Locations**  
**Post by: Harry Hempy on December 03, 2016, 08:03:40 PM**

Quote from: judyh on December 02, 2016, 11:23:31 AM

Harry, is there some history about why the meeting has been held in August in recent years? How long has it been since the meeting was held earlier? What month was the meeting held before the change to August?

Before 2013, organization meetings (odd-year annual meetings) were held in June or early July. In 2013 and 2015 the meetings were six to eight weeks later -- the last week of August.

The 2013 meeting was late because the Annual Meeting 2013 Working Group, formed on March 19, 2013, just didn't get around to it. The same for the 2015 meeting.

Here are the dates and locations of GPCO annual meetings since 2004.

Election Cycle	Organization Meeting		Nomination Meeting	
	Date	Location	Date	Location
2004			4/24/04	Fort Collins
2006	7/9/05	Frisco	5/13/06	Denver
2008	6/23/07	Carbondale	5/3/08	Littleton
2010	7/?/09	Teleconference	5/1/10	Florence
2012	6/25-26/11	Longmont	3/31/12	Carbondale
2014	8/24/13	Highlands Ranch	3/22/14	Denver
2016	8/29/15	Denver	4/3/16	Centennial

Major parties typically have their odd-year annual meetings in March to get organized for the new election cycle.

I'd like the GPCO 2017 Annual Meeting to be in February, while people still remember the 2016 election, before the spring snows.

**Title: Re: History of GPCO Annual Meeting Dates and Locations**  
**Post by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on December 03, 2016, 09:59:20 PM**

It will be in August or September. There can be separate meeting to take care of any nominations for office, but we co-chairs and other officers were elected on August 29, 2015, and the co-chair positions are for two years.

**Title: Re: History of GPCO Annual Meeting Dates and Locations**  
**Post by: Harry Hempy on December 05, 2016, 03:05:11 PM**

That's bullshit, Andrea. Your term is from the 2015 Annual Meeting until the 2017 Annual Meeting.

Your interpretation of "two-year term" as meaning 24-months can't be right. Have you

considered the implications?

When you argue that the 2017 Annual meeting must be in August or later, because the 2015 Annual Meeting was held in August, the implication is that all subsequent odd-year annual meetings must be held in August or later. After a few election cycles we would be meeting on New Year's Eve.

The annual meeting in 2015 (and 2013) wasn't late by design; the party just didn't get around to it. This has worked against the interests of the party.

Its time to get our annual meetings back in sync with the election cycle. Odd-year annual meetings, to organize the party around goals and a strategic plan for the new election cycle, should be held as early as feasible.

For the record: You announced the 2017 GPCO Annual Meeting will be held around late August on the official party website on Nov. 18, 2016. You did this without Council's agreement (and without even notifying Council of your intention). Under state party bylaws, you do not have authority to decide the timing of annual meetings. That authority is reserved to Council.

Title: **Re: History of GPCO Annual Meeting Dates and Locations**  
Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **December 05, 2016, 03:36:57 PM**

Andrea, by your logic we can never hold a meeting earlier than the previous meeting at which a co-chair was elected. That is of course silly.

A good first start to selecting a meeting date is for chapters to volunteer to host the meeting, and propose a location and date. Then council can select amongst those.

Michael Haughey  
JC GReens

Title: **Re: History of GPCO Annual Meeting Dates and Locations**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **December 15, 2016, 04:42:25 PM**

Here are some good reasons (from 2015) for holding the odd-year annual meeting as early as feasible.

Quote

Re: GPCO Reorganization Meeting Date  
Feb. 9, 2015

Folks, if I may, we need to consider that the objective might be our plans for 2015's work. That's the theme of Boulder's upcoming meeting, and they will need to get the state party's commitment to support those plans...sooner rather than later.

Denver wants to play on a team with the rest of the state and not dominate the agenda going forward. I would much rather know what position we're to play, instead of going off on our own tangent.

Further, Jill Stein has launched an exploratory committee for 2016. Whoever the nominee is, Colorado needs to be ready with a game plan to support.

We need to be spending 2015 building the machine. Therefore, May is too late in the year.

**March, please.** We can work on adding a Skype capability for the meeting if travel is a hassle.

--

Andrea Merida



303-550-0677

"Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect." --Saul of Tarsus






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## Evidence Group Appendix D: Selective Rule Enforcement

on: May 06, 2014, 09:34:07 AM

- [Quote](#)

Andrea Mérida Cuéllar

- Administrator
- -
- 
- 
- Posts: 146
  - 
- Local: Denver Greens
- State Officer: State Co-chair

Hello, colleagues. There is a Denver county independent, Elet Valentine, who may be seeking the Denver Greens' nomination for state house, district 7, to run against incumbent Democrat Angela Williams, who never met a bankster she didn't like (sorry, I digress).

Per state rules, she wouldn't be able to switch to Green at this point, but I wonder if the Denver Greens would be prevented for some reason from endorsing her, should we vote to do so.

Any ideas?

[Report to moderator](#)  [Logged](#)

Andrea Mérida

Co-chair, Green Party of the United States






Co-chair, Green Party of Colorado

(303) 550-0677

[Reply #1 on: May 06, 2014, 01:13:35 PM](#)

- [Quote](#)

Bill Bartlett

- Administrator
- -
- 
- Posts: 287
  - 
- Local: Poudre Valley Greens

- State Officer: Co-Chair

Good question!

There is nothing that would prevent the Denver Greens from making such an endorsement. We could post that press release to the GPCO website and FB to make it known.

Not sure if we would run with that at the state level, unless we also considered endorsing other candidates..?






Does that answer your question?

[Report to moderator](#)  [Logged](#)

[Reply #2 on: May 19, 2014, 12:56:59 PM](#)

- [Quote](#)

### [Andrea Mérida Cuéllar](#)

- Administrator
- -
- 
- 
- Posts: 146
  - 



- Local: Denver Greens
- State Officer: State Co-chair

It does; thanks. In this case, she would be running against a known bankster who has facilitated legislation to impact foreclosures all over the state. It might make sense to have the state consider endorsing her, which would help her from a fundraising perspective. Let me know how we could clarify whether this would be a state option. Thanks.

[Report to moderator](#)  [Logged](#)

Andrea Mérida

Co-chair, Green Party of the United States

Co-chair, Green Party of Colorado

(303) 550-0677

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Evidence Group Appendix E:  
Assuming Control

## GPCO Forum

**Council => Private Council Discussion => Topic started by: Harry Hempy on December 24, 2016, 12:38:10 PM**

Title: **Elephant in the Room #1: ColoradoCare**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **December 24, 2016, 12:38:10 PM**

Quote from: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on October 21, 2016, 02:44:15 PM

I want to call out the elephant in the room, and that's the distress over my personal opinion, which I have shared with many of you, about Amendment 69. I am on the record as personally being opposed. That is offensive to some of you. However, I have never represented my personal opinion as the state opinion, I have never blocked any proposal brought forward, nor have I ever coerced anyone to take on my opinion.

ColoradoCare has, indeed, become an elephant in the room that cannot be ignored. I am understanding that the issue won't go away (we won't have forgiveness and reconciliation) until it is recognized and understood.

[CENSORSHIP in GPCO and the MY GIRL meme are also elephants in the room. To avoid conflating issues, I won't address these elephants in this topic.]

I acknowledge (and confess) that ColoradoCare became a state party issue only because of my actions. Andrea and I have had a personal falling out ever since. She has restricted (not just blocked; restricted) my ability to even read any post she makes on Facebook, does not respond to my emails, and hangs up the phone when I call her.

When I read the misinformation about ColoradoCare in the July 2015 issue of the Denver Green Party newsletter, I immediately asked the newsletter editor [Andrea] to print a correction in the next newsletter. Andrea ignored the request. She has been covering up her misstatements about ColoradoCare ever since and has not yet acknowledged the errors in that newsletter. For example, Andrea still claims that, under ColoradoCare, employees would have to pay more in health care taxes than their employers. See details at <http://gpcoco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=306.msg1536#msg1536> (<http://gpcoco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=306.msg1536#msg1536>).

As to Andrea's claims:

Quote from: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on October 21, 2016, 02:44:15 PM

I have never represented my personal opinion as the state opinion

True. But Andrea represented her personal opinion as the Denver Green Party position in the July 2015 issue of the Denver Green Party newsletter and in the Denver Green Party 2016 Ballot Question Positions document, dated October 23, three days after GPCO Council endorsed Amendment 69.

Quote from: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on October 21, 2016, 02:44:15 PM

I have never blocked any proposal brought forward

True. And I thank Andrea for that. Council agreed to Proposal 003-16 to endorse Amendment 69 ColoradoCare on October 20, 2016. However, co-chairs [Andrea and Dave Bell], council facilitator [Andrea], and administrator [Andrea] have yet to acknowledge council's agreement to endorse.

Quote from: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on October 21, 2016, 02:44:15 PM

nor have I ever coerced anyone to take on my opinion.

This is questionable. I felt coerced to drop my resolution to endorse ColoradoCare at the 2015 annual meeting, in an attempt to appease Andrea and produce the appearance of unity at the meeting. I am sorry I acquiesced. Here we are, 18 months later, with an elephant in

the room.

I was OK with Andrea's suggestion, dated September 9, to present balanced pro and con arguments and let the voters decide:

Quote

let's issue a **pro/con** document that will help voters decide.

So I felt betrayed when I read Andrea's hatchet job against ColoradoCare in the Denver Green Party's voter guide for 2016 ballot initiatives. The article contained two con arguments and no pro arguments. The con arguments from the July 2015 Denver Green Party newsletter disappeared without explanation and were replaced by two new con arguments, as follows:

Quote

public funding for abortions is not covered

and

Quote

there is too much potential for unintended consequences with the fact that the oversight board cannot be recalled

These con arguments should be rejected.

To argue that ColoradoCare should be opposed because the state constitution (since 1984) forbids use of public funds for abortions makes as much sense as arguing that public funds should not be used for abortions because of Roman Catholic dogma proscribing abortions and artificial birth control. If we don't like the state constitution's ban on public funds for abortions, let's change that provision of the constitution. Taking it out on ColoradoCare is ridiculous.

The argument that 'the oversight board cannot be recalled' is a holdover from the initial misunderstandings at the June 2015 Denver Green Party meeting. Specifically, Denver Greens were told that ColoradoCare elections would be held under the auspices of the Colorado Secretary of State. This is not true and Andrea has never advised Denver Green Party members of this untruth.

If ColoradoCare had passed, Coloradans would have had the opportunity to create an election system open to all adult residents, not just electors registered with the secretary of state, featuring ranked choice voting and single transferable vote protocol that would produce a modicum of proportional representation (given that ColoradoCare districts would each have three representatives) on the governing board. There would have been potential for Greens to be elected. The secretary of state would have had no authority to derail the system.

ColoradoCare would have been a win for oppressed people in Colorado. *Comparing ColoradoCare - An Analysis of Health Care Costs for Latino and Immigrant Coloradans*, is a detailed intersectional analysis from the Colorado Fiscal Institute, dated June 2016. The study concluded that Hispanic households in Colorado will see large gains from ColoradoCare. We missed a great opportunity to improve the health care that ethnic minorities, women, children, and low-wage employees receive in Colorado. This was a missed opportunity for Latinx outreach.

As a Roman Catholic, Andrea surely understands that forgiveness is part of a process that includes confession, penitence, and reconciliation. Every religion and self-help program has the same process in one form or another. One characterization is, "No justice? No peace!"

To move forward, for justice with peace, Andrea must acknowledge her actions vis a vis ColoradoCare, as follows:



1. Andrea attempted to cover up her misstatements about ColoradoCare made at the June 2015 Denver chapter meeting.
2. Andrea attempted to cover up her misstatements about ColoradoCare made in the July 2015 Denver chapter newsletter.
3. Andrea retaliated against Harry's post of pro ColoradoCare points by banning him from the state website, without notifying Harry, without consulting with the steering committee, without consulting with council, and in violation of state party bylaws on due process for members.
4. Andrea attempted to cover up her action against Harry by secretly restoring Harry's access to the website (on November 23, 2016), without notifying Harry, the steering committee, or council.

When Andrea acknowledges these actions, I will be able to forgive and move on toward reconciliation and party unity.

Title: **Re: Elephant in the Room #1: ColoradoCare**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 09, 2017, 02:51:07 PM**

Harry, I am writing to address some of the last few posts and comments you have added to the forum recently.

The current forum Code of Conduct states, "Refrain from using ALL CAPS (shouting), profanity, belittling, accusations, and threats." On a recent post, you responded using profanity and an extremely irritable tone.

The code also states, "Personal attacks will not be tolerated. Report personal attacks for moderation. Do not allow personal attacks to escalate."

Your recent posts focused on one individual are excessive and now are at the level of personal attacks. This type of personal attack will not be tolerated. Therefore, they will be deleted, as they are unrelated to any current or pending state council business. Any further breaches of the Code of Conduct will result in a suspension of your privileges for using the forum.

Please refer to the code of conduct for more information, here: <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=28.0>

I will delete this post after a couple days to ensure you have seen it.

Thank you.

## GPCO Forum

**Council => Private Council Discussion => Topic started by: Sean Friend on October 04, 2016, 12:43:30 PM**

Title: **Call for Treasurer Nominations**

Post by: **Sean Friend** on **October 04, 2016, 12:43:30 PM**

Good afternoon,

As Tom Hall has resigned from his position as treasurer via an email dated October 1, I'd like to invite nominations for the position of state party treasurer. I'd suggest that the nomination period be 30 days from today and that Ranked Choice Voting among the Council be used to select from the nominees. Nominees can be from any chapter and a member in good standing, accept the Ten Key Values and abide by the guidelines as listed in the bylaws. Thank you,

Sean Friend  
GPCO Secretary  
Co Chair, Arapahoe County

Title: **Re: Call for Treasurer Nominations**

Post by: **rlworthey** on **October 04, 2016, 01:38:55 PM**

Should we place nominations here?

Title: **Re: Call for Treasurer Nominations**

Post by: **judyh** on **December 01, 2016, 06:12:02 PM**

I realize that everybody has been busy with the national election, making the 30-day nomination period perhaps unrealistic, but has there been any progress on this topic? Since the request is for nominations for a position that is open to all members in good standing, not merely council members, would it be more appropriate to post this in a forum that all members can read? I do not see any nominations here. This forum is private, open only to council members. We might receive some nominations if more people could see that there is a position available for which nominations are being accepted. Has this vacancy been filled by some other process? Has there been a decision not to fill the vacancy?

Judy Harrington  
co-chair, Poudre Valley Greens

Title: **Re: Call for Treasurer Nominations**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **December 01, 2016, 06:34:54 PM**

Once Dave Bell gets back from vacation, he and I will discuss this further. It could very well be that we both assume the duties until officer elections happen in August or so.

Title: **Re: Call for Treasurer Nominations**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **December 05, 2016, 01:49:26 PM**

Sean and All,

I nominate myself for the position of state party treasurer. I am a member in good standing, accept the Ten Key Values and will abide by the state party bylaws.

Sincerely,  
Harry Hempy

Title: **Re: Call for Treasurer Nominations**

Post by: **judyh** on **December 08, 2016, 12:10:07 PM**

Is a second to a nomination required? I recall that Robert Lee Worthey's name appeared in the list of candidates for co-chair although I did not see a second to his nomination. The nominations of the other two candidates were seconded. What rules apply here?

Can any Colorado Green second a nomination? Since this process is being carried out on a private thread to which the majority of party members do not have access, it may be difficult for chapter members to know that a nomination has been made or to second a nomination that has been made. Must all nominations be made by council members and seconded by council members? Are local chapter members supposed to submit their input to council members who then pass it on to the private thread?

Title: **Re: Call for Treasurer Nominations**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **December 13, 2016, 10:11:37 AM**

Quote from: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on December 01, 2016, 06:34:54 PM

Once Dave Bell gets back from vacation, he and I will discuss this further. It could very well be that we both assume the duties until officer elections happen in August or so.

When does Dave Bell get back from vacation?

Title: **Re: Call for Treasurer Nominations**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **December 17, 2016, 06:01:02 PM**

GPCO Council Facilitator:

The appointment of an interim GPCO Treasurer has taken more than 10 weeks.

Would you please help facilitate this topic?

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## HOW ANDREA MERIDA GAINED CONTROL OF THE GREEN PARTY OF COLORADO

Andrea Merida holds the following positions in the Green Party of Colorado:

- GPCO Co-chair
- GPCO Treasurer
- GPCO Forum Administrator
- GPCO Council Facilitator
- GPCO Forum Moderator
- GPCO Website owner/editor/webmaster
- GPCO Facebook administrator
- GPCO Twitter administrator

Sean Friend is GPCO Secretary, elected at annual meeting on Aug. 29, 2015.

Dave Bell is interim GPCO Co-chair, nominated by Andrea Merida on October 6, 2016.

How did this happen?

### Timeline:

August 2015: Andrea became a **GPCO Forum Administrator** 'Temporarily' to prepare for 2015 Annual Meeting, by private agreement with Administrator Bill Bartlett.

August 29, 2015: Andrea elected **GPCO Co-chair**, running as a 'slate' with incumbent Chair Bill Bartlett.

August 31, 2016: Proposal 003-16 to endorse Amendment 69 ColoradoCare, was sponsored by Co-Chair Bill Bartlett and Council Representative Susan Hall.

September 5, 2016: Proposal 004-18 to recognize Adams County as a new chapter, splitting off from Adams/Jefferson chapter, was sponsored by Co-chair Andrea Merida.

September 22, 2016: Proposal 005-16 to declare one of the co-chair positions vacant was submitted by Secretary Sean Friend (usurping Facilitator Brittany Hoover's role as Facilitator). Sponsored by Arapahoe County (Sean Friend) and Poudre Valley (Dave Bell) chapters.

September 28, 2016: Proposal 006-18 to recognize Platte Valley as a new chapter was sponsored by Bill Bartlett and Joseph Scardetta.

October 1, 2016: Treasurer Tom Hall resigned due to unauthorized expenditures by Co-chair Andrea Merida.

October 2, 2016: Co-chair Bill Bartlett resigned.

October 4, 2016: Call for nominations for Co-chair to replace Bill Bartlett was posted in Private Council Discussion by Secretary Sean Friend.

October 4, 2016: Call for nominations for Treasurer to replace Tom Hall was posted in Private Council Discussion by Secretary Sean Friend.

October 6, 2016: Chair Andrea Merida nominates Dave Bell to be GPCO Co-chair.

November 18, 2016: Facilitator Brittany Hoover resigned, saying, "the responsibility of mediating the recent divide within the party has become too much".

November 19, 2016: Harry Hempy nominated himself "to serve as Council Facilitator. After 40 years working at IBM I have lots of experience following rules and facilitating processes. Outside of my employment I have facilitated numerous organizations, including the Parent-Teacher organization of the Tucson Unified School District, consisting of about 90 members, representing 184 schools. I commit to facilitate fairly and in compliance with party bylaws, rules and procedures." Bob Kinsey and Michael Haughey seconded the nomination.

November 20, 2016: Co-chair Andrea Merida appointed herself to be **GPCO Council Facilitator**, replacing Brittany Hoover.

November 23, 2016: Dave Bell was appointed interim co-chair until the next state meeting.

December 5, 2016: Harry Hempy nominated himself to serve as GPCO Treasurer. To date (4/27/17) no action has been taken to replace the Treasurer. The Co-chairs have assumed the position of **GPCO Treasurer**.

[Since becoming Andrea's, co-chair Dave Bell has contributed only one post on GPCO Forum:]

**Proposal Drafting / Re: Amend Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**

« on: March 11, 2017, 08:05:00 PM »

Harry -

A few thoughts.

First, can you please dial back the rhetoric in this proposal? Your continued personal attacks against Andrea are in my opinion, baseless and petty. Your insistence that a personal disagreement represents a larger rift in the GPCO seems a bit narcissistic. In addition, your reference to "the co-chair wars in October 2016" is at the very least wildly hyperbolic. I understand that we went through a tumultuous period but I would hardly call it a war. Second, as I would normally find concern for the growth and health of the GPCO to be an admirable trait, I can't help but feel like this concern, coming from you, at this time, in this way, feels disingenuous. To qualify that, since your return to the Green Party, I have seen utterly nothing except attacks on Andrea from you.

All of this leads me to believe that your motives in this and your previous proposal have nothing to do with the stability or growth of the Green Party of Colorado. If your concern is in fact genuine, I would like to ask why it was so important to support Bernie Sanders in the Democratic Primaries that you abandoned your duty as a GP officer? Why did you spend so much energy trying to primary Jared Polis when you could have been working to support the candidacy of Green Party of Colorado Congressional Candidate Cliff Willmeng in the very

county that you were elected to represent?

Furthermore, when we needed to be working together to build this party, you were off being a democrat. That is unacceptable and I will not abide your flimsy, wishy washy, disloyal inability to commit to the independence of the Green Party. I certainly will not reward your infidelity with influence and authority. I also will not stand by and allow you to sit out when it matters, and then attack the people who were on the front lines doing the work after the dust settles. So Mr. Glass House, put down the stones and get to work or kindly step aside!

**March 28, 2017**

**To: GBGP Steering Committee:**

Our proposal to define "two-year term" for state party officers in GPCO Bylaws as being from odd-year annual meeting to the next odd-year annual meeting failed due to lack of a voting quorum.

Andrea Merida refused our request for an impartial facilitator. She appointed herself to facilitate and, as facilitator, killed the proposal in 25 hours and 33 minutes. The following report details the facilitator's actions.

I am ready to submit our second proposal, to set the date and location of the 2017 annual meeting. However, the second proposal will meet the same fate as the first proposal if Andrea Merida (or Dave Bell) facilitate it. Their conflict of interest is clear.

I would like to explicitly demand an impartial facilitator for the second proposal, based on our experience with the first proposal. There is no point to seeking agreement if Andrea Merida facilitates it.

What would you think of requesting Art Goodtimes to facilitate? Art is the highest ranking Green elected official in the state, the Green Party member with the longest tenure in GPCO, and a person of unquestioned integrity. He has served as GPCO Forum administrator in years past and did an excellent job.

Please respond by end of day, Thursday, March 30.

Thank you,

Harry Hempy

GPCO Council Representative

## Report on Facilitation of GPCO proposal 002-17

March 28, 2017

Greater Boulder Green Party:

Greater Boulder Green Party (GBGP) passed a resolution on March 11, 2017 to submit two proposals (to clarify state officers' term of office and set the date of the 2017 state annual meeting) to GPCO Council and request a special facilitator for the proposals who does not have a personal stake in the outcome.

This is a report on the outcome of the first proposal.

At 2:01 pm on March 12 I submitted the proposal for agreement seeking with a request for an impartial facilitator who does not have a stake in the outcome. See

<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=317.msg1694#msg1694>

At 2:04 pm Andrea Merida denied the request by GBGP for an impartial facilitator without explanation. She appointed herself as facilitator without consulting Council or any state party officers. Facilitation of the proposal was irregular in several respects, all of which worked to the disadvantage of the proposal.

At 2:25 pm an altered version of the GBGP proposal was posted as **Proposal 002-17: Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office** for one week of agreement seeking. The facilitator made the following changes to the proposal, without consultation or consent from the proposal's sponsors, before posting it.

- a) Added the text, "Per Section 3.1 of the GPCO Bylaws, "A Green local must present its proposed bylaws for approval, and be approved by 60% of the voting Greens at a state party meeting, or by the state council." This text is not relevant to the proposal but its presence in the proposal generated comments and confusion that interfered with agreement seeking.
- b) Removed the entire Background section of the proposal; namely, "Since the co-chair wars in October 2016 Co-chair Andrea Merida has claimed she is entitled to 24 months in office. Andrea is using her position as council facilitator to block all proposals to have the 2017 annual meeting before she gets her full 24 months in. So now, four months after the 2016 election, GPCO Council is unable to set a date for the meeting because we have not agreed on when our officers' terms expire. All other political parties will have held their annual state meeting by the end of March." By censoring this background, Andrea hid the whole rationale for the proposal from Council.
- c) Added this, so-called, Moderator Note, "**Moderator Note: This issue has already been corrected via Proposal 007-15: length of co-chair term** (<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=251.0>). " The Moderator's note is incorrect. Proposal 007-15 did not define officers "two-year term" to be from odd-year annual meeting to odd-year annual meeting, which is the point of the proposal.

The facilitator terminated the agreement seeking process 22 minutes after posting the proposal. Larry Dunn immediately BLOCK'ed the proposal, based on the misleading Moderator Note, inappropriately inserted into GBGP's proposal. Larry wrote, "And given the above reply by Andrea, I will keep my block in place. The language disagreement at issue here seems to have been cleared up by Proposal



007-15, and I therefore see no reason to reconsider my block.” Larry did not understand that Proposal 007-15 actually created the problem that the GBGP proposal is intended to fix. The facilitator made absolutely no attempt to facilitate Council's discussion or agreement on the proposal.

At 2:41 pm the facilitator posted the proposal for voting.

The following morning, March 13 I requested the proposal be removed (stop voting process) because I had just discovered section 5.7 of the published bylaws on the website was obsolete, due to passage of proposal 007-15. The facilitator ignored this request and ordered the voting to proceed.

At the same time Andrea Merida, acting as state co-chair, website administrator or state secretary, updated the GPCO Bylaws on the state party website, changing section 5.7 and making the text of the proposal being voted on obsolete. This threw the voting process into chaos. During the voting the facilitator wrote, “you will have to submit another proposal, and I suggest you withdraw this proposal altogether.” and “You need a new proposal.” After being thus told by the facilitator that the proposal was dead, not enough Council members voted to reach quorum. The proposal failed because the facilitator effectively stopped the voting on March 13 at 3:58 pm.

So, the facilitator rushed the proposal through agreement seeking and voting in a grand total of 25 hours, 33 minutes (a record) before most Council members even had a chance to read it.

This facilitation was not a democratic process.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Hempy, Co-chair  
Greater Boulder Green Party

303-459-0172

## Evidence Group Appendix F: Hidden Agenda

## GPCO Forum

**Council => Private Council Discussion => Topic started by: Harry Hempy on January 03, 2017, 05:41:31 PM**

Title: **Elephant in the Room #2: MY GIRL Meme**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **January 03, 2017, 05:41:31 PM**

### **Elephant in the Room #2: MY GIRL Meme**

Andrea Merida's failure to acknowledge her misstatements about ColoradoCare in June 2015 and her subsequent efforts to cover up her misstatements are addressed in Elephant in the Room #1: ColoradoCare. <http://gpcO.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=311.0>

But there is an older and larger elephant in the room that is dividing the Green Party of Colorado along demographic lines. Unknown to almost all Colorado Greens, the accusations of sexist and racist attitudes that are tearing the state party originated in discussion of the MY GIRL meme in early 2015. (Ref 1)

To get to the crux of the party's divisions, GPCO needs to understand we have been in a shit fight over FEMINISM ever since Andrea took the position that

Quote

Men have no right to inject their opinions in Green discussions of feminism.

and told the men to "butt out".

Andrea's interpretation of the Green Party's eighth key value, Feminism and Gender Equality, to exclude males from discussions is mind-blowing. Andrea has never explained how she can interpret our values of FEMINISM and Gender Equality to exclude people of a certain gender. She has never even acknowledged she made the statement.

The party must resist exclusionary practices, such as banning men from discussing FEMINISM.

### **Ref 1: MY GIRL Meme:**

Discussion of the MY GIRL meme on the GPUS discussion group on Facebook in early 2015 spawned a fight in the Green Party of Colorado that continues to this day, including calls to impeach both state co-chairs based on mutual accusations of sexual and racial bigotry. The fight has been studiously ignored by the state party. It is time to expose the issues raised by the MY GIRL meme.

It was early 2015. Greens were reviewing a series of memes on the GPUS Facebook discussion group for potential use in the Jill Stein campaign for President. One meme was a great picture of Dr. Stein with a short quote and the words "MY GIRL" in bold type across the bottom of the meme.

A Green from New York, I think, commented that referring to Jill as a girl was marginalizing. The predominant reaction was negative, on the basis that the meme could easily be attacked as sexist.

I commented that I liked the meme because it had high production values, was attention getting in its simplicity, and thought provoking.

Andrea Merida also liked the MY GIRL meme. She commented that calling a woman "girl" was just fine in her community; "girl" was used as a term of endearment.

Two or three Greens, who happened to be male, challenged Andrea's position and Andrea then responded with this startling interpretation of the eighth key value, Feminism and Gender Equality:

Quote

I respectfully request the males to butt out of this discussion. Men have no right to inject their opinions in Green discussions of feminism.

The discussion quickly devolved into an profane barrage of sexist and racist accusations and counter accusations. Colorado Greens Andrea Merida, myself, and state co-chair Bill Bartlett participated in this shit fight. The discussion was such an embarrassment to the party that Facebook administrator, Starlene Rankin, promptly removed the entire discussion.

## **Ref 2: Intersectionality and the Green Party:**

<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=312.0>

Title: **Re: Elephant in the Room #2: MY GIRL Meme**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 09, 2017, 02:50:37 PM**

Harry, I am writing to address some of the last few posts and comments you have added to the forum recently.

The current forum Code of Conduct states, "Refrain from using ALL CAPS (shouting), profanity, belittling, accusations, and threats." On a recent post, you responded using profanity and an extremely irritable tone.

The code also states, "Personal attacks will not be tolerated. Report personal attacks for moderation. Do not allow personal attacks to escalate."

Your recent posts focused on one individual are excessive and now are at the level of personal attacks. This type of personal attack will not be tolerated. Therefore, they will be deleted, as they are unrelated to any current or pending state council business. Any further breaches of the Code of Conduct will result in a suspension of your privileges for using the forum.

Please refer to the code of conduct for more information, here: <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=28.0>

I am deleting this post in a couple days, to give you a chance to see this message.

Thank you.



## Replies

this crap, and he created the most successful grassroots political movement in modern history. I don't care about fostering a home for racist ideologues, I care about whether the GP can compete politically in 2016 and 2020. It absolutely will not if radical social justice ideologues like yourself push everyone out.

13 minutes ago • Like •  1



**Bill Bartlett**

oh, and as long as that means you get to win a superficial argument.

13 minutes ago • Like •  1



**Sean Friend**

Frankly, I don't give a damn about winning if it means that we sacrifice our values as a party. If all you care about is winning an election, I suggest you go find a Clinton or a Trump to go rally around. The Green Party stands for racial justice, and if you think that makes us racist, I don't care. I'm not interested in courting liberals, I'm interested in building a revolutionary intersectional party for the working class. I think we're done here. **Tom Allen**, care to weigh in so I know whether this is just another liberal Demogreen page?

5 minutes ago • Like



**Bill Bartlett**

this party stands for FAR MORE than racial justice.

4 minutes ago • Like



Write a reply...







## Replies



### Sean Friend

I don't give a damn what definition you found in the dictionary. Anti racism activists have used the definition I just used for decades.

This really isn't the right party for you if you can't accept the basic concepts of fighting white supremacy. Did you know that we officially call for reparations be paid to black folks for centuries of slavery and disenfranchisement? It's in our platform.

20 minutes ago • Like •  2



### Bill Bartlett

if we want to just start making up definitions then by all means i guess you're right. 😊 guess now everyone can just change what words mean, as long as you're not white.

13 minutes ago • Like •  1



### Arnold Denmar

**Sean Friend** Here is the problem. People who accept your definition are an insignificant minority of radicals. You might not care about actually building a political party with numbers great enough to challenge the two party system, but I do. Social justice politics and anti-white racism will destroy the movement from within and keep ordinary people out. The only reason it hasn't done so already is because Jill herself doesn't espouse these ideas. Bernie Sanders never talked about this crap. and he created the most successful



Write a reply...





 **Bill Bartlett and 2 others****Scott Kender**

Yeah I'm sure this person is a Clinton troll

5 hours ago • Like •  1 • Reply**Arnold Denmar** Sorry, which person? Me? The pers...**Scott Kender** Not you but the poster. I guess DNC...**Arnold Denmar** Scott Kender Well here is somethin...**Ursula Rozum**

There is no such thing as reverse racism.

1 hour ago • Unlike •  2 • Reply**Bill Bartlett**

i wasn't there, but i have seen an increase in anti-white racism in the GP, and its sad to see hate being disguised as equality.. especially in a party that espouses diversity and nonviolence.

58 minutes ago • Like •  1 • Reply**Michael E. Broumas**

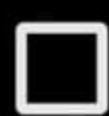
There is no such thing as anti-white racism, but this is disgraceful if true. Time to dump the bullshit identity politics and get revolutionary. We all need each other or the ruling class will pick us off one by one.

54 minutes ago • Like •  1 • Reply**Sean Friend**

I was at the convention and saw a huge amount of



Write a comment...



## **Intersectionality and the Green Party**

In the aftermath of the 2016 elections, pundits and political party leaders have filled the airwaves speaking about identity politics. Someone figured out that Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump spent just 10% of their campaign effort on issues and policy. They spent 90% of their time appealing to certain unhappy, oppressed sections of the electorate and scapegoating the “others” as deplorables.

U.S. political campaigns have increasingly used identity politics in divisive, basically dishonest, ways for 30+ years. But campaign theorists, particularly in the Democratic Party, are now having second thoughts about dividing voters along identity lines (race, gender, wealth, etc).

Professor Kimberle Crenshaw developed the theory of intersectionality in the 1980's. The feminist movement was in full swing but the movement was divided on racial lines. Black people were marginalized and systematically excluded from decision making and leadership positions. Intersectionality is the study of how different power structures interact in the lives of minorities, specifically black women. Her name and her work has become an introductory point for feminists of all stripes.

Today intersectionality is a powerful tool, used to understand the interaction of power structures on minorities on a multi-dimensional basis, including a person's race, gender, sexual orientation, family of origin, community environment, education, wealth, age, ability, skin color, hair color, height, weight, etc, etc.

There is also growing recognition that these intersectional characteristics are not binary. There are more than two genders; more than two sexual orientations; more than black and white; more than blonde and brunette; more than fat and skinny. Just to pick an example, the oppression of white homosexuals may be much more severe for people between 5' 10” and 5' 11”. Granular intersectional data can be used to discover systematically oppressed sections of people that would not otherwise be obvious.

As with any powerful technology, we must use intersectionality with care. In my view, there is no redeeming value in using intersectional data to fine tune an election campaign strategy to divide (and conquer) the electorate. Using intersectional data to track trends toward less oppression is a good thing, though.

Intersectionality and identity politics has been a prominent topic of conversation in the Green Party of Colorado and the Green Party, nationally, in recent months.

This is a call for balance in the Green Party. Understanding and resisting oppression in all sections of society is critically important. But so is unity, solidarity, and common purpose. The party's ability to survive depends on our unity, not our divisions.

With the Trump victory, for the first time in my life, I am truly fearful for the future of the United States, and democratic governments around the world. People must become united in solidarity if we are to have a chance of resisting the Trump administration that is shaping to be very reactionary.

I urge all Greens to embrace solidarity with all peoples; don't be divided; find the love.

Harry Hempy  
Dec. 1, 2016



Good Morning,

My friends and I have made phone calls, made posters, and helped at every Denver event. We've been to town halls and gatherings at restaurants and bars. We spent hours at a vigil outside a federal prison; we went to see Jill twice. We went to Ajamu's town hall. There has been no support from local party officials for persons wishing to canvass, hold small events or even obtain materials for Jill Stein. People are making up their own campaign materials using their own printers because there is nothing available from the party. We and many others have been extremely active in supporting Arn Menconi and Jill Stein at every single event in the Denver metro area since we chose to DemExit.

An materials order finally came to my home on Friday and my daughter and I spent over 15 hours during the past two days dividing them into packets, creating door hangers by attaching rubber bands or stapling them so they could easily be distributed. We are truly interested in being part of the Green Party because the party values so closely align with our own. We were fortunate to be able to meet Jill and feel strongly about her platform. She is our best hope, and is the only candidate who speaks truth to power.

I am very concerned because the Co-Chair of the Green Party, Andrea Mérida Cuéllar has been posting extremely insulting and inflammatory rhetoric regarding Bernie supporters who chose to move to the Green Party. When my daughter asked for clarification, Andrea and her friends flamed her. Every dissenting opinion has been shot down because Andrea deletes them. She and her friends have spent over 30 hours attacking the integrity and dedication of Bernie supporters.

My daughter and I are currently the only ones distributing campaign materials to the local Greens. Many frustrated people who want to help Jill's campaign are met with silence when they reach out to leadership here. How can the Green Party EVER powerful enough to make the changes in American politics that we need, if their elitist attitudes refuse to allow others to participate.

On Sept. 9, 2016 at 5:53, Andrea Mérida Cuéllar wrote: *'I am absolutely convinced that for the most part, the former Sanders supporter is not our target for recruitment into the Green Party. I just tabled at a "progressive" event in Albuquerque for the Green Party of New Mexico, and the people who were still waffling over whether to be a Green were NOT the two groups of working-class Latinas who are fighting neoliberal assaults on the community, with whom I had good, honest conversations.*


*I qualify this by saying there is a difference between voting for Jill and becoming a registered Green Party member (where allowed). There are plenty of good people of good conscience who will be voting for Jill but at the end of the day are going to still "change the Democratic Party from within." All power to them, seriously.*

*Our party, however, must be built with the working class, for whom the stakes are higher and the damage from capitalism is imminent. It must be from the frontline communities who are the first to suffer environmental racism, police brutality, poverty and homelessness. For others, being a Green is an academic exercise. For the rest of us, it's life or death.*

*Let's be clear about the difference between simply voting for Jill and becoming a Green. There is a difference.'*


Andrea Mérida Cuéllar is very vocal about her elevated status in the Green Party. Does this woman speak for the Party? She makes assumptions about our motivations and class, questions our ethics and insults us. Her comments about race and gender identification in the feed are disturbing for a Party that claims to be inclusive. IS this how the Green Party really feels about bringing other people into the party? Are all our efforts and dedication worthless to the Green Party if we're white, hetero and working class?


After 38 years as a Dem, I left the party; it wasn't a hard decision after seeing their abuse and corruption first hand. I hoped to find a place with the Green Party but the leadership here in Colorado is so dysfunctional that it will be difficult to stay. Please note the screen shots from Andrea Mérida Cuéllar's Facebook page below, as they are most disturbing coming from a National Co-chair.


 **Brandy Baker** I have pretty much posted this argument without any personal attacks on anyone on a Maryland Green page, and now I am being targeted by a few in my local for saying this.  
Like · Reply ·  8 · September 9 at 6:08pm · Edited


 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Stand fast, darling. Privilege is a heavy-duty drug.  
Like · Reply ·  9 · September 9 at 6:08pm

 **Brandy Baker** I know. 😊 Thank you for the solidarity.  
It is stressful, but Myles and I also have allies in the local. ... [See More](#)  
Like · Reply ·  4 · September 9 at 6:09pm

 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** I need to come out there soon!  
Like · Reply ·  1 · September 9 at 6:09pm



 **Brandy Baker** The past few days have been brutal.  
I am not engaging with them any further. I am just documenting EVERYTHING.  
Like · Reply ·  1 · September 9 at 6:26pm · Edited



 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Focus your organizing targets elsewhere. I'm sorry this is happening.  
Like · Reply ·  2 · September 9 at 6:11pm



 **Brandy Baker** We're strong. And we are taking the high road. 😊  
Like · Reply ·  3 · September 9 at 6:12pm · Edited

 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Amen. We have our eyes on the workers' prize.  
Like · Reply ·  2 · September 9 at 6:13pm

 **Brandy Baker** We are organizing a Greenleft workshop on recruitment arguing that the Sanders supporters are not our future, but the working class is. 😊  
We are trying to give people in Baltimore many options to be involved in Green organizing. ... [See More](#)  
Like · Reply ·  3 · September 9 at 6:20pm · Edited

 **Ed Montemayor** I agree with the difference between voting for Jill and becoming a member of the Green Party. But propose that the criteria for who belongs in the Green Party should be based on 2 factors: [1] Agreement with the GP's philosophy (platform, values, pillars); and [2] Willingness to work for helping the GP grow and develop into a successful organization when it comes to pushing progressive public policies and programs, and when it comes to nominating AND supporting winning candidates for elected office. What do other people think?  
Like · Reply ·  3 · September 9 at 6:50pm

 **Eric Siegel** That's exactly it. I honestly think that the majority of Sanderistas don't really belong to \*any\* party; they simply liked what Bernie had to say, and would vote for him, and work on his campaign specifically, and that was the end of it. Some of those ... [See More](#)  
Like · Reply ·  1 · 8 hrs

 **Ed Montemayor** IMO (and this is perhaps a subject for discussion after the election because right now I want to focus most of my attention on Jill2016) what we (GP) need is to become the kind of organization whose work (activities organized/supported by the GP) people want to participate in. Like I said, let's talk about this after Nov 8.  
Like · Reply ·  3 · 8 hrs



**Jan Martell** I agree with Andrea and that is how we want to grow our state party, but we also have some former Bernieites who are organizing a local in NC, and they are serious about party building. For some reason they are being given a lot of flak on Facebook, including from (ahem) a GPUS co-chair from Colorado.

Like · Reply · 1 · September 9 at 8:22pm



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** No, I'm not giving them flak on fb. I'm not sure they want to be GREEN, though.

Like · Reply · 4 · September 9 at 8:23pm



**Laurens R. Hunt** It depends on who you talk to. I know multiple Bernie Sanders voters who will be voting for Dr. Jill Stein, Jill Stein. Hillary Clinton is out of the question for them as she is for me. Their party affiliation is the Green Party. If anything they have an even lower opinion of the Democrats because of their false pretense of being for the working person and obviously a false pretense of being for world peace.

Like · Reply · 1 · September 9 at 8:38pm



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** I don't have a lot of confidence in Greens who supported a Democrats. Why bother?

Like · Reply · September 9 at 10:37pm



**Eric Siegel** And again, just because they are going to be voting for Jill Stein doesn't make them Greens.

Like · Reply · 8 hrs



Write a reply...



**Mawusi Ture** My sister and comrade Andrea Mérida Cuéllar, thank you for saying that! 😊 😊

Like · Reply · 3 · September 9 at 9:16pm



**Christopher Casey** I could not agree more, Andrea Mérida Cuéllar. This is the core of my "storefront socialism" approach...

Like · Reply · 1 · September 9 at 9:23pm



**Mawusi Ture** My sister and comrade Andrea Mérida Cuéllar, thank you for saying that! 😊 😊

Like · Reply · 3 · September 9 at 9:16pm



**Christopher Casey** I could not agree more, Andrea Mérida Cuéllar. This is the core of my "storefront socialism" approach...

Like · Reply · 1 · September 9 at 9:23pm













**Sallyanne Ofner** I think you are right on that, Andrea.

Like · Reply · 1 · September 9 at 9:25pm











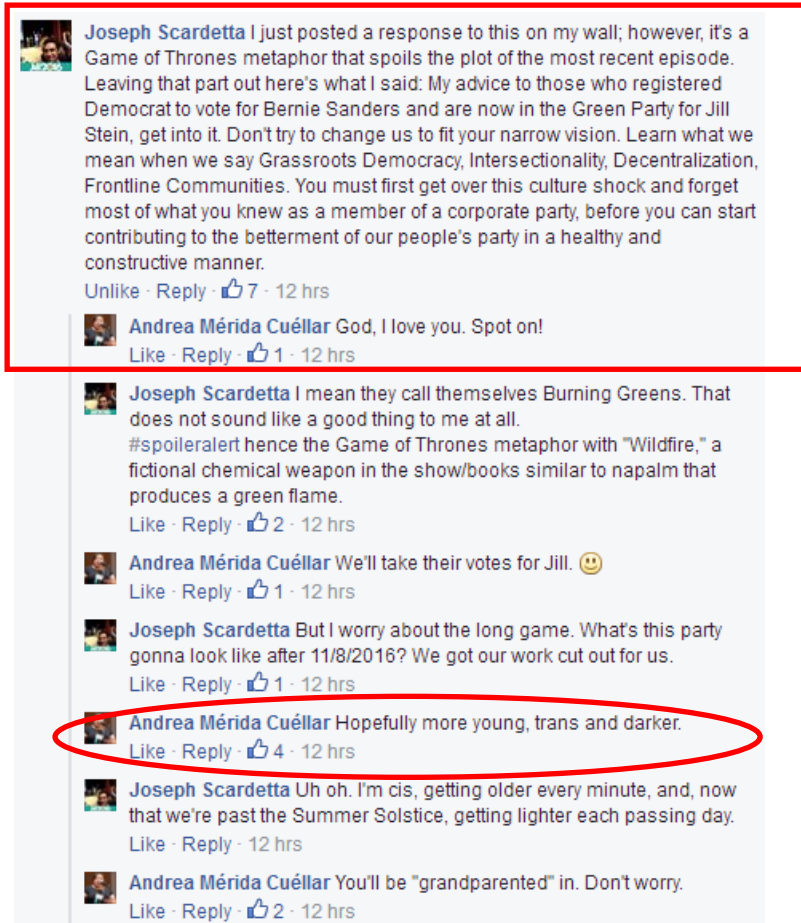
**Mark A. Lause** I'm not sure that these can be easily counterposed. I find Sanders supporters among the younger (and less experienced) are open to rethinking things, while the older and jaded tend to be whining themselves into supporting Clinton.

Like · Reply · September 9 at 9:37pm

-  **Romi Elnagar** I never put too much hope in the Sanders people. They are good, but when the rubber hits the road, where will they be?  
Like · Reply ·  2 · September 9 at 10:30pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** They can be so demanding. They don't understand that many of our locals have been on life support, and instead of figuring out where to help, they just harp. Not all, but some.  
Like · Reply ·  1 · September 9 at 10:38pm
-  **Eman Eizenga** I was a Sanders supporter. Now I'm the Denton County Green Party Treasurer.  
Like · Reply · 2 hrs
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** You made the clean break, and now there's no issue.  
Like · Reply ·  2 · 2 hrs
-  **Eman Eizenga** Scrolled down and read the rest of the comments, really liked what you said about being a committed Green but there not being any "shame at making a pit stop at Sanders first".  
Like · Reply · 2 hrs
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** It's true. It's not the fault of most berners that there was no Green Party around to make the case for us.  
Like · Reply ·  1 · 2 hrs

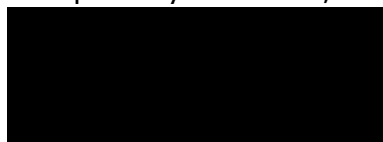
-  **Dave Schwab** Asher - make common cause with Bernie supporters to pass ranked choice voting in Maine and they won't have any reason to go back to the Democratic Party.  
Like · Reply ·  1 · 23 hrs
-  **CJ Mitchell** Good points, but to me at least, it seems like a lot of them are merely motivated by anger over the fact that they couldn't predict a predictable outcome to the Sanders quixotic run to nowhere. I don't even think they are for Stein so much, or even th... See More  
Like · Reply ·  2 · 21 hrs
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** political infancy sounds about right. I am careful not to lump them all into this camp, but this resonates.  
Like · Reply · 3 hrs
-  **SisterElaine Muhammad** I support the green. But there are certain socially liberal "causes" that I detest. But I must say you are right there are differences between voting Jill and actually being a bona fide green.  
Like · Reply ·  1 · 21 hrs

-  **Nancy Allen** Yes, the Bernie campaign ended up being a way to gather the poor, angry and marginalized while maintaining the status quo.  
Like · Reply ·  4 · 14 hrs
-  **Lorraine Heth** I was recently told it was naive to be Green.....(BIG sigh). And it's not naive to keep doing the same thing over and over expecting a different result.....? \*%\$!  
Like · Reply ·  6 · 13 hrs
-  **Mark A. Lause** I do think it's important to remain positive, but I recall discussing these things with a discouraged Green from another state and he was practically finishing my sentences. It helps to know that the problems are not peculiar or parochial ones. Moreover, it's important to understand that these are vital POLITICAL issues rather than merely ORGANIZATIONAL problems. The starting point is how much we want people who agree with us but are not currently involved in governing the party to be involved in governing the party.  
Like · Reply ·  1 · 13 hrs
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** The people who truly see us as the immediate imperative are not who we think they are. We should take stock.  
Like · Reply ·  1 · 12 hrs



We were fortunate to be able to meet Jill Stein and Arn Menconi; we are fully committed to working through the campaign to get them elected. However, we will certainly be avoiding all contact with Colorado Green Party leaders.

Respectfully Submitted,



From: Jonathan Lullo  
To: Green Party of Colorado  
Date: Dec. 13, 2016

Subject: Unaffiliating from Denver Green Party

I don't know why the messenger doesn't work on here, I tried messaging numerous members with admin responsibilities. I have changed to unaffiliated, the Green Party is not focused on the planet, so I am not focusing on this party. I joined for the Planet and to help it. Instead I have only wasted several months and been mislabeled by an interim county co-chair [Andrea Merida] that's only platform for the past several months has been about helping the homeless only.

I am not a sexist, I don't appreciate being labelled as a sexist by anyone because I am loud and assertive to anyone that implies that I am lazy or mislabels me. My co-chair doesn't have a job that's why she can spend more time than me, but to say I do nothing, while working two jobs and still spending what free time I can to the party's agenda that is never even discussed at our local meetings is not worth my time.

I am done with this party until it grows up and uses science and knowledge for the future forward. So good luck but whoever has control, delete all my information and my posts because for now I am not going to be involved until drastic changes are made at every level and the focus turns back to the PLANET first.



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## Greens Speak Out on Recount and Our Commitment to an Independent Party

Posted by Margaret Flowers 230sc on November 28, 2016

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We write to reaffirm our commitment to building a Green Party that has a radical analysis of the society in which we live, and promotes bold solutions to transform our society and address the root causes of those crises; a Green Party that is independent of the two money-dominated parties.

There is a deep social crisis in the US. This crisis manifests in countless ways. One of its central manifestations is through the political system. People have legitimate concerns about the electoral system, which is manipulated through wholesale voter disenfranchisement, massive voter suppression and the racist and undemocratic historical logic of the Electoral College. In all fifty states, voters from poor and marginalized communities, especially Black people and other communities of color, have their votes suppressed and are excluded from participation through various practices.

The Green Party cannot build the political power necessary for the transformative changes we need by allying with two capitalist parties that serve the interests of the wealthy. That is why it is imperative that the Green Party is independent of those parties. We stay independent to give people an alternative



to the corruption of two money-based parties. Greens reject donations from corporations and their political action committees to ensure we are accountable to the people and so that the people's agenda is not superseded by the corporate agenda.

There are significant electoral reforms needed to make elections more democratic and more representative of the people. While we support electoral reforms, including how the vote is counted, we do not support the current recount being undertaken by Jill Stein.

The decision to pursue a recount was not made in a democratic or a strategic way, nor did it respect the established decision making processes and structures of the Green Party of the United States (GPUS). The recount has created confusion about the relationship between the Green and Democratic parties because the states chosen for the recount are only states in which Hillary Clinton lost. There were close races in other states such as New Hampshire and Minnesota where Clinton won, but which were not part of the recount. And this recount does not address the disenfranchisement of voters; it recounts votes that were already counted rather than restoring the suffrage of voters who were prevented from voting.

As a candidate, Dr. Stein has the right to call for a recount. However, we urge the GPUS to distance itself from any appearance of support for either Democrats or Republicans. We are well aware of the undemocratic actions taken during the primaries by the DNC and the Clinton campaign. Greens cannot be perceived to be allied with such a party.

We remain committed to the Green Party's four pillars and ten key values, which have at their foundation grassroots democracy. We urge the GPUS to prioritize its efforts on building our party from the bottom up, working and organizing in direct solidarity with our state and local parties and alongside and in defense of the rights of those most affected by the injustices of a capitalist, white supremacist and undemocratic system. This includes support for local efforts to prevent the disenfranchisement of people of color via voter suppression or because of felony convictions and to be more inclusive and participatory in our decision-making processes and work.

**[CLICK HERE TO SIGN THE LETTER](#)**

Signed,



Chris Blankenhorn, Co-Chair of Green Party US, GPUS Youth Caucus, Illinois

Andrea Merida Cuellar, Co-chair of Green Party US, Co-founder GPUS Latinx Caucus, Colorado

Bahram Zandi, Ph.D., Co-chair of Green Party US, Maryland

Janet Martell, Secretary of Green Party US, North Carolina

James Andrews, Youth Director, Stein-Baraka campaign, New York

Adrian Boutureira, Green Party of Texas, Socialist Greens, Jill2016- Field Director-Latinx Outreach Coordinator

David Doonan, IWW, Union #560, former Village Mayor, Greenwich, NY, Upper Hudson Green Party, New York

Paul Homeniuk, Treasurer, Green Party of Michigan

Grace Lopez, Long Island Volunteer Coordinator Jill Stein for President 2016, Chair, Jim Brown, Nassau County, New York

Dan Pulju, Jill2016 lead volunteer phonebanker, 9013 calls, Pacific Green Party, Oregon

Kevin Zeese, Senior Adviser Stein-Baraka campaign, Maryland

Chris Hedges, Stein-Baraka endorser, author, New Jersey

Brandy Baker, National Committee Delegate, Maryland

Steven Ballard, Massachusetts Delegate to National Convention (Jill Stein Supporter)

Jim Brash, Green National Committee, New Jersey; Green Party of New Jersey Green Council

Joseph A. Calhoun, Green Party candidate U.S. Congress 2004 / 2006, Colorado

Tim Casebolt, Secretary, Lavender Green Caucus

Pia Jensen, Former Cotati City Council member & Vice Mayor, California

Sharon LeMay Green National Committee delegate and Anoka County Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor, District 5 (January 2017), Minnesota

Gini Lester, Lavender Greens Caucus, Illinois

Steven Linnerooth, GPUS National Committee Delegate, Minnesota

Cynthia McKinney, 2008 Presidential candidate, Georgia

Rosa Clemente, 2008 Green Party Vice-Presidential candidate, New York

Lauren Besanko, former Green Party candidate for State Legislature, Maine

Owen R. Broadhurst, 2006 candidate and former member of Green-Rainbow Party's Administrative Committee, Massachusetts

Eric Brooks, Coordinating Committee Member, Green Party Of California

Alfred Clayton, Chairperson Green Party of Ocean County, New Jersey

Michael Cornell, Green, Former Member and Chair of the Columbia Council, Maryland

Don DeBar, past Green Party Candidate, New York

John Eder, (G) Portland Board of Education, Maine

Margaret Flowers, former Green Party candidate for US Senate, Maryland

Sean Friend, Green Party of Colorado Secretary, Young Greens Caucus Secretary

Mike Goldbeck, member of Coordinating Committee of the Green Party of California, San Diego Green Party

Tyler Henderson, Alabama Green Party Chair

Myles Hoenig, former Green Party candidate for Congress, Maryland

Daniel Kogoj, Former Green Party Rep on Leichhardt Council, Port Jackson  
Greens, New South Wales, Australia

LuAnne Kozma, Green Party National Committee delegate, Michigan and former  
Michigan coordinator, Stein/Baraka campaign

Steve Kramer, former Co-Chair, Green Party of the United States, Howard County  
Green Party, Maryland

Mark A. Lause, former state committee Green Party, Ohio

Michael Leonardi, co-founder Green Party of Ohio

Carl Lundgren, Chair, Bronx County Green Party/Verdes del Bronx, New York

Joe Manchik, former Green Party candidate for Congress, Ohio

Carlos Martinez, Viva Jill Stein, Texas

Sarah Morken, Coordinating Committee member, Green Party of Pierce County,  
Washington State

Brendan Phillips, Interim Co-chair, Green Party of Utah

Aaron Renaud, Co-chair, Green Party of Texas

Rose S. Roby, Co-chair Pinellas Green Party Local, Florida

Cindy Sheehan, Political and social activist, media

Paul Stephens, Green activist since 1980 - Barry Commoner campaign. NC  
member 2004-2009-Delegate to NomConv 2004, CasCoGreens, Montana

Richard Stone, San Francisco Green Party County Council, California

Paul Street, author and activist, Johnson County Green Party, Iowa

Amanda Trujillo, Denver Green Party Co-Chair

Julia Williams, former Green Party candidate for Congress, Michigan

Ajagbe Adewole-Ogunade

Melissa Aguilar, concerned Green Party supporter, Broward County Green Party, Florida

Billy Akin

Kali Akuno, Supporter, Mississippi

Sheila Albertson

William Aldridge, Green party supporter, Virginia

Robert Alft, Green Party, Capitol District, Albany, New York

Yousef al-Khattab

Jon Anderson

Patricia Ashlock

Astrid, Georgia Green Party

Bernie August, Green Party, Delaware

Angel Ayala, Green Party member

Kristina Bacon

Dr. Jared Ball, Green Party member, Maryland

Bob Ballard, Party Organizer, Ventura County Green Party, California

Julie Banuelos, Denver Green Party, Colorado

Manuel Barrera, PhD, Associate Professor of Urban Education, Metropolitan State University, Minnesota

Laura Basso

Basil Benjamin Jr.

Rosemary Bensko, Berkeley, California

Michael Evan Bertoni, Poudre Valley Greens, Colorado

Pete Bobb

Steven Bray

Sharon Briscoe, Green Party of Fresno County, California

Peter Bronson

Rick Brown, concerned Green Party member and worker, Green Party of Taos, New Mexico

Austin Tyler Bryan, future Green Party candidate for Congress, Ohio

Elizabeth Buck

Troy Buckner-Nkrumah, Green Party voter and financial contributor, Alaska

Harold Burbank, Green Party of Connecticut

Rebecca Burr

Laura Bryon, frustrated democrat since '92, Alameda County, California

D L Byrum, Green Party Volunteer Coordinator for Volusia County, FL

Cindy

Jenny Cain

Carolyn Cannafax, Green Party of San Diego County, California

Andrea Carney, Denver, Colorado

Amy Cassada

Diana Castillo, Stein-Baraka supporter

Timothy Castle, Pennsylvania

Katherine Catinella

Brandon Cawley, Green Party/Jill Stein 2016 Supporter

Lisa Chakan, Green Party, New York

Ray Chambers, Green Party of San Diego County, California

Steve Claassen, Fresno County Green Party, California

Selby Coffin

James Collins, Green Party, Delaware

Bernie Corace

Michael Crawford

Elena Daniel

Linda Danz

Kevin Daugherty, Green Party member, Pennsylvania

Brian Delafayette, Green Party, San Diego, California

Cristi Demnowicz, Green organizer, Baltimore County Local, Maryland

Nadia Dennis

Trane DePriest, Franklin County Green Party,

Ash Di

Shane Doolittle

Jackie L. Douglas, Green Party member, AR

Katina Dunn, California

Esmeralda, Washington, State

Kenneth C. Eidel, St. Petersburg Green Party, Florida

Samuel Day Fassbinder, Pomona Valley Greens, California

Kevin Fatica

Chris Felice, Green Party supporter

Kenosha Ferrell, Green Party member, Miami-Dade, Florida

Joseph Fiacher

Erin Fox, Vehicle City Greens, Flint, Michigan

Felice Freiwald, Independent

Lucas Frye, Virginia

Michael Furci

Maria Furmato

Nekita Gandy, Green Party member, Mississippi

Marcia Ganeles

Juan Garibay, Green Party member

Ann Garrison, Alameda County Green Party, California

David Gaskey, Independent

Jerad Geier, Green Party activist, Wisconsin

Bill Gerhard

Amy Gibbens

Jean Giblette, Green Party of New York State

Robert M. Goetz, Green Party of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Andres Gonzalez, San Antonio Green Party, Texas

Damian Gonzales, community organizer, Adams County Green Party,  
Pennsylvania

Craig Gordon, Green Party member, Florida

Michael Gottlieb

Gail Gouveia, Massachusetts

John Gowen

Margaret Graney, Green Party at Lexington Area Greens, Kentucky

Casandra Grecu

Dr. Ed and Harriet Griffith, Green Party, Washington State

Chuck Hamilton, Green Party of Tennessee

Vicci Hamlin, Green Party voter, Ohio

Chris Herz, Green Party, Maryland

Argie Hill, Green Party at Berkeley, California

Carey Hix

Andrew Hudson, Green Party of Sonoma County, California

Eric Hudson, Chicago Green Party, Illinois



Jude Hudson, Potter County Green Party, Pennsylvania

Angela Humphrey, Green Party member, Denver, Colorado

Jacques Huoff

Mark Iozzo

Jamhar M. James

Linda Jansen, Green Party member

Leith B. Jasinowski-Kahl, Longshoreman, Labor and Racial Justice Activist, Green,  
Washington State

Judea Johnson, Green Party of Alameda County, California

Deb K.

Alex Kantrowitz, Member Illinois Green Party, 2000-2010

Naim Karim

Sarah Kenny

Joy Kingsley, Green Party member, South Carolina

Stephen Kramny

Jennifer V. Kurland, Metro Detroit Greens, Michigan

Brett L., Green Vermont Coop

Mark Lause

David Lee

David Leonard, Green Party member, Maine

Dakotah Lilly

James Joseph Madigan, Baltimore Green Party, Maryland

Susan Manak, Wisconsin Progressive Voter, Green Party of Vernon County

Steve Mann, Missouri Green Party's Heart of America Chapter

Sunny Maynard

Ann McCoy, Green Party member, Brooklyn, New York

Greg McDonald, Green Party voter

Shane McDonnell, Mesa County Green Party, Colorado

Ciaran Mc Clean, Green Party Northern Ireland

Liz Meave

Gail Mello, Arizona

Jeremy Menard

Evan Miller, Los Angeles, California

Frederick B. Mills, PhD, Green Party Member, Philosopher, Montgomery County, Maryland

Chip Molter

Max Monclair, Green Party member, Colorado

Linda Moran

Bob Mueller, DuPage County Green Party, Illinois

Catherine Mugianis

David Ngo

Will Noble, Pacific Green Party, Oregon

Mike Nyland, Independent voter

Bruce Oatway

T. Oliver, Pacific Green Party member, Oregon

Melanie Oringer, MoCo4Bernie Core Group Leader, Maryland for Bernie Co-chair

Ted Orr

Robert Ouellette, Green Party, New Hampshire

Benjamin Palmer, Green Party, North Carolina

Anne Patterson, Left the Dems for Greens this year, Metropolitan Albuquerque  
Area Green Party, New Mexico

Christy Penleric

Matt Peppe, Green Party member, Maryland

Perri

Joanna Perry

Keith Perry

Dave Petrovich, watermelon Green Party Member Monmouth County, New Jersey

Dan Plaat, Upper Hudson Green Party, New York

Diane Poland

Cynthia Ramon, Pacific Green Party of Oregon

Brian Reynolds, Green Party member, Atlantic County, New Jersey

Scott Richardson, Independent

David J Rienhart

Peggy Robertson, Green, former public school teacher, Arapahoe County, Colorado

Jeff Roby, Editor, St. Petersburg Independents, Florida

Barbara Rock

Derrick Romero

Annette Rondano, Green Party member, Minnesota

Randy Rupley

Adrian Rush, concerned Green Party supporter

Hannah Rush

C. Russell

David Carlos Salaverry, San Francisco Green Party, California

Anthony Saleyar

Dan Scanlan, Nevada County Green Party, California

Willie Schatz, Washington, DC

April Schutte

Anita Seeling, recovering Democrat

Rob Seimetz

Stephen T. Semienick

Jesse Shaffer, Travis County Green Party, Texas

Amy Shea

David Sheridan

Julian Shermis

Heidi Sholtis, Green Party, South Carolina

Jase Short, solidarity member, Green Party, Tennessee

Robert Showalter, Colorado

David Simowitz, Green Party of New York

Geoffrey Small

Steve Snyder

David Soumis, Independent Green

Chelsey Sprengeler, Green Party, Illinois

Haruhuani Spruce

Roy Stanley

Lorna Stein

Connie Stopmer, Green

Thom Taylor, Green Party, Charleston, South Carolina

Albert L. Terry, III, Green Party member, Alabama

Dean Thompson, Green Party Voter since 2000

Scott M. Thompson, Green Party voter

Jake Tibbetts, Youth activist

Ellen Tieszen, Green Party, Collin County, Texas

Jens Tinjum

Ann Tulintseff, Green Party member, Colorado

Pancho Valdez, Former GP member. San Antonio, TX

Face Valyou, Lyricist & Producer in Built To Write, Organizer for 15 Now Roanoke, Virginia

Brandon Villa, San Bernardino Green Party, California

Mari Vina, Independent who voted Green

Mike W., Green Party of Florida

John and Susan Walsh, Maricopa County Green Party, Arizona

Rachel Watkins

Patricia Weinmunson

Robert "Bison" Whittenberg, Green Party Activist

Brian Wiles, Former Longshoreman, Haiti Solidarity Activist, Racial Justice Organizer, Metro Detroit Green Party, Michigan

A. Wilkins, Alameda County, California

JJ Wills

Jessica Wilson, Stanislaus County Green Party, California

Skyler Wind

Patricia Wisneski

Jeremy M Wolfe, Young Greens US, Utah Green Party

Lee Wood

Giovanna X (aka "Liviana"), Co-Owner, "Berners for Jill Stein" at Google Plus

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## GPCO Forum

**Council => Private Council Discussion => Topic started by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on February 23, 2017, 01:13:32 PM**

**Title: Coordinator needed for March for Science in April**  
**Post by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on February 23, 2017, 01:13:32 PM**

Colleagues, I got the following email, and I'm asking one or more of you to step forward to coordinate our activities:

Quote

Dear Chairwoman Merida:

My name is Kevin Hennegan with the March for Science Denver. I am contacting you on behalf of the Outreach, Diversity and Inclusion committee with the hope of finding a way for the Colorado Green Party to participate in our event. The March for Science is a celebration of our passion for science and a call to support and safeguard the scientific community. The march will take place on April 22, 2017, in conjunction with hundreds of other marches around the country and the world, including Washington D.C.

We abide by the mission of "Science, Not Silence." As an organization, we are a non-partisan voice for evidence-based policy, scientific research, science education, open access to information and public discussion and debate. This march is for scientists and science enthusiasts, of all races, religions, gender identities, sexual orientations, abilities, socioeconomic backgrounds, political perspectives, and nationalities--united by a love of science and an insatiable curiosity.

There are numerous ways to get involved and we would be happy to give you more information to find a place at this event to suit your organization's interests and constraints. Additional information about the march is available at [www.marchforsciencedenver.org](http://www.marchforsciencedenver.org).

Could you please let us know if we can count on your party's participation at the march? I can be reached at this email address with any questions you may have. We look forward to hearing from you and working together for this movement.

Sincerely,  
Kevin Hennegan

Hennegan's email is [khennegan19@gmail.com](mailto:khennegan19@gmail.com). Who wants to step forward and coordinate?

Thanks.

**Title: Re: Coordinator needed for March for Science in April**  
**Post by: Harry Hempy on February 23, 2017, 02:23:23 PM**

I've been planning to do the March for Science in Denver for some time now and I'd be glad to coordinate with Kevin Hennegan on behalf of GPCO. It will truly be a nationwide event.

I'd like one or two people from other chapters "co-coordinate" (if that is a word) with me. Volunteers?

**Title: Re: Coordinator needed for March for Science in April**  
**Post by: Véronique Bellamy on February 24, 2017, 09:50:18 AM**

I'd be willing to help out with this. :)

**Title: Re: Coordinator needed for March for Science in April**

Evidence

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Post by: **Scott Lupo** on **February 24, 2017, 04:39:16 PM**

I'm down with helping out on this endeavor also. Science, Yes! Alternative Facts, No!

Title: **Re: Coordinator needed for March for Science in April**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **February 25, 2017, 06:10:21 PM**

Thanks, Scott and Veronique. I just sent a letter to Kevin Hennegan, Scott and Veronique to get communications established.

This March for Science on Earth Day will be HUUUGE!

Title: **Re: Coordinator needed for March for Science in April**

Post by: **judyh** on **February 26, 2017, 04:13:37 PM**

Harry, I'm hoping we'll have a march in Fort Collins, so I'm intending to participate locally. Good luck with your Denver march.

Title: **Re: Coordinator needed for March for Science in April**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **March 01, 2017, 06:10:53 PM**

Well, get after it, folks, and let us know the details.

Thanks.

Title: **Re: Coordinator needed for March for Science in April**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **March 02, 2017, 02:08:36 PM**

Andrea,

We are on it. Details about the March will be posted at <http://marchforsciencedenver.org/> as they develop.

At this point we have corresponded with Kevin and the Green Party of Colorado will be listed as an official sponsor of the March for Science in Denver on April 22.

We are looking forward to a conference call with March organizers. We will discuss opportunities for tabling and speaking and ask about other venues for the march in Colorado that would be close to chapters located far from Denver.

We will produce promotional material, with logistics for gathering, for publication on the state party website, Facebook and Twitter.

I would think late March or early April will be the right time for publicity to go out. Does the party have deadlines for submitting articles for a monthly newsletter or other publications?

More later,  
Harry

Title: **Re: Coordinator needed for March for Science in April**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **March 30, 2017, 09:50:50 AM**

An announcement of the March for Science was sent to chapters today.

Evidence

For people attending the march in Denver: The march in Denver will start and end at Denver Civic Center Park. Events include the march, teach-ins and speakers, beginning at 10:00 am. Colorado Greens will assemble just to the west of the Greek Auditorium on the south side of the park. Look for the big Green Party banner. Bring your signs and banners!

#### Quote

To Chapters of the Green Party of Colorado:

The Green Party of Colorado has joined with March for Science (<https://www.marchforscience.com/>) to support a nationwide March for Science event on Earth Day, April 22, 2017. Marches will be held in Washington, D.C., around the country and around the world.

In Colorado, March for Science events are planned in Aspen, Avon, Breckenridge, Carbondale, Colorado Springs, Denver, Estes Park, Fort Collins, Grand Junction and Gunnison. Detailed information about the events in each city is at <https://www.marchforscience.com/satellite-marches/?state=Colorado>

The party's statement of support for the Denver march is at <http://marchforsciencedenver.org/blog/march-for-science-denver-supporter-statement>

Please announce the March for Science at your next chapter meeting and plan to participate in a city near you.

Denver: The march in Denver will start and end at Denver Civic Center Park. Events include the march, teach-ins and speakers, beginning at 10:00 am.

Colorado Greens will assemble just to the west of the Greek Auditorium on the south side of the park. Look for the big Green Party banner. Bring your signs and banners!

Science, not silence,  
Harry Hempy, Scott Lupo and Véronique Bellamy

March for Science – Denver:

Mission Statement:

The March for Science champions publicly funded and publicly communicated science as a pillar of human freedom and prosperity. We unite as a diverse, nonpartisan group to call for science that upholds the common good and for policymakers to enact evidence-based policies in the public interest.

Diversity:

Scientists have voiced concern over many issues - gag orders for government science agencies, funding freezes and reversing science based policies. We recognize that these changes will differently and disproportionately affect minority scientists, science advocates and the global communities impacted by these changes in American policies. Addressing these issues is imperative in understanding how recent developments will affect all people.

We must work to make science available to everyone and encourage individuals of all backgrounds to pursue science careers. A diverse group of scientists produces increasingly diverse research, which broadens, strengthens and enriches scientific inquiry, and therefore, our understanding of the world.

We had planned to order tee-shirts with a Green Party for Science design for sale (donations) to Greens around the state to have for the march. Proceeds from the shirts would have been added to the state coffers. This will not happen because, per Veronique's discussion with Andrea on March 27, the state coffers are not sufficient to front the money to order any shirts.

Scott and I have signed up as volunteers with March for Science Denver to assist during the day and clean up the park after the march.

Title: **Re: Coordinator needed for March for Science in April**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **April 04, 2017, 11:27:43 PM**

So...Linda Templin sent me the following note the March for Science organizers sent her:

Quote

Due to the nature of the Denver March for Science, we cannot back any political party.

However, we are assembling a "Meet Your Representative" table where we would be happy to host Green Party elected officials. This table will encourage representatives to meet with the public and discuss the importance of science and scientific backed policies in politics. There will be representatives from the Democratic party and we are continuing our outreach efforts to get elected Republicans and Libertarians at this table. We have been in contact with other members from the Green Party (Harry Hempy, Scott Lupo, and Veronique Bellamy) and they have offered to facilitate getting Green Party leadership/elected officials at this table.

Even though they invited us, and given the nature of their sensitivity, I don't think we should bend over backward to participate in this.

Title: **Re: Coordinator needed for March for Science in April**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **April 05, 2017, 03:58:08 PM**

I am delighted that March for Science Denver has decided to have a Meet Your Representatives table to discuss the importance of science and scientific backed policies in politics. This was a result of our queries about speaking and tabling opportunities at the march and, I would assume, similar queries from Democratic electeds who, also, signed the March for Science support statement.

And delighted that Greens will be participating visibly and on an equal footing with Democrats. It is not clear, yet, whether there will be any Republican, Libertarian or American Constitution party representatives willing to speak up for science.

This is an opportunity for thousands of Coloradans to see the Green Party at work. This call for participation was just sent to all chapter co-chairs. Responses are requested by Friday, April 14.

Quote

**March for Science - April 22 - Call for Green Scientists**

To Chapters of the Green Party of Colorado:

The March for Science in Denver Civic Center Park will have a "Meet Your Representatives" table to encourage representatives to meet with the public and discuss the importance of science and scientific backed policies in politics.

There will be representatives from the Green Party and the Democratic party. March organizers are trying to get elected Republicans and Libertarians to participate as well.

We need to staff the table with Greens that have recognized scientific credentials from 10:00am to 2:00 pm on April 22. It would be ideal to have four scientist volunteers, each taking an hour at the "Meet Your Representatives" table.

This is an opportunity for Greens to be visible, side by side with Colorado's elected officials. I believe the Green Party will stack up just fine.

Please reply to this note by 4/14 to nominate Greens from your chapter who are willing to take an hour to represent the Green Party with a science-based message (ecological wisdom, sustainability, the precautionary principle, population pressure and exponential growth, etc, etc).

Science, not silence,  
Harry Hempy, Scott Lupo and Véronique Bellamy

Title: **Re: Coordinator needed for March for Science in April**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **April 23, 2017, 03:30:31 PM**

The March for Science was the biggest march in Denver since the Women's March the day after Donald Trump was inaugurated. See Denver Post photos at <http://www.denverpost.com/2017/04/22/photos-march-for-science-rally-draws-a-huge->

crowd-to-downtown-denver/

Thanks to everyone who worked to coordinate GPCO's participation in the march, marched with the Green Party, and volunteered with March for Science Denver.

This is Kevin Alumbaugh's account of the march:

Quote

It was a pretty impressive turnout. Apparently the lead marchers were returning to Civic Center Park before the end of the line had left. Begs the question how many potential Green voters were among the tens of thousands of enthusiastic and very concerned citizens that attended?

Scott Lupo and I carried the Green Party banner and talked to some folks. There was a woman and her kids behind us representing federal employees who told us that Trump was investigating federally-employed scientists who were attending this and other events and had the authority to fire them if they participated. Lots of cameras along the route so we speculated about facial recognition technology being used.

A quality line up of speakers (Harry was stuck at the Science and Policy table) in the amphitheater and enthusiastic crowd. And the weather cooperated too! When Gov Hick got up to speak the anti-fracking folks took to the steps and got in front of him and began chanting and nearly blocked him off with their signs. You could hardly hear him at times. He actually handled it pretty well-talked louder into the mic and paused a few times but it was a pretty short speech. Surprisingly no security reaction. A great morning all around!

**Candidate Recruiting:** I found two people who may be interested in running for office as Greens. One is receiving a PhD in environmental studies at CU Boulder this year. The other is a young, articulate person from Denver.

I'll send them the link to the GPUS online candidate training and copy the appropriate chapter co-chairs, by way of introduction. These "potential" candidates have made no commitment to run; but are interested.

Yours,  
Harry

Title: **Re: Coordinator needed for March for Science in April**

Post by: **Jason Justice** on **April 23, 2017, 04:23:28 PM**

What are these folks names?

Have you forwarded this information to the Political Director, Youth Coordinator, or the Executive body of the State party? There are a few reasons other rank and file Greens would want to know this as well since in the past we have fielded candidates who wanted to force women of color receiving state assistance to be sterilized etc, I think it's ok for us to know who they are and to check them out.

Title: **Re: Coordinator needed for March for Science in April**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **April 23, 2017, 04:28:26 PM**

Out of respect for the privacy of the individuals involved, I don't intend to publish their names or contact information publicly or to Council. They have contact information for their chapter co-chairs and can make contact when/if they want to get involved.

The last thing I want is for random Greens to descend on them when factions of the party are talking about throwing bricks and punching people in the face.

From Kevin Hennegan <khennegan19@gmail.com>★

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📁 Archive

🗑 Junk

🗑 Delete

More ▾

Subject **Re: Invitation to the March for Science Denver**

4/5/2017 10:05 AM

To Andrea Mérida <andrea@coloradogreenparty.org>★

Cc Véronique Bellamy <v@vero.moe>★, Linda Templin <lindatemplin@yahoo.com>★, Harry Hempy <harryhempy@gmail.com>★

Dear Andrea,

Certainly. My apologies for any confusion. The MFS is a political event, and as such, the participation of political parties and elected officials is welcome, even vital. However, as an organization, we are committed to a non-partisan approach. To support this principle, the MFS-DEN organizing committee decided not to permit individual political parties or politicians to host tables at the teach in. While there was a strong consensus for this decision, some members of the committee, myself included, felt that this approach would have the unintended consequence of taking us too far away from the political engagement we are trying to encourage in the scientific community. So, this past week, the committee decided to sponsor a "Meet Your Representative" table where elected officials from any party could meet and interact with march attendees. To again support our non-partisan approach, the committee decided to invite a representative from political parties who do not currently hold a seat in the Colorado General Assembly or the Colorado federal delegation, but have expressed interest and support for the march, to participate at this table.

I hope this clarifies the current plans for the march. The March for Science Denver organizers thank you for your understanding, and hope to see a large contingent from the Green Party at the march! If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to write or call. My cell number is 720-933-3435.

Best regards,

Kevin

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 11:04 PM, Andrea Mérida <[andrea@coloradogreenparty.org](mailto:andrea@coloradogreenparty.org)> wrote:

Kevin, I am very dismayed to hear that MFS is now backpedaling from any partisan participation, though we are organizing because of your invitation. I am getting reports from Greens organizing our involvement that now parties are to be all placed in one booth.

Can you clarify the situation?

Evidence

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from Andrea Mérida Cuéllar <andreamerida@gmail.com>★

Reply Reply All Forward Archive Junk Delete More

Subject **Re: MFS Outreach**

4/7/2017 11:02 PM

To Linda Templin <lindatemplin@yahoo.com>★, david bell <freelydave@gmail.com>★

Cc Scott Lupo <slupo73@gmail.com>★, Harry Hempy <harryhempy@gmail.com>★, Veronique Bellamy <v@vero.moe>★, Shelia Canfield-Jones <scanfjones@gmail.com>★

Folks, this is not a candidate recruitment situation. Given the way the GPCO has been deliberately suppressed in this event which has been skewed toward the Dems, there should be no candidate recruitment.

These will not be the 'droids we're looking for.

All that we're being offered is to share a table with other electeds and candidates. We don't have any partisan candidates, and our electeds are in far-flung areas of the state and won't be at this event.

Keep in mind that the responsibility of recruiting candidates belongs to the locals, per the bylaws.

Additionally, I am aware of some groups on the political left who were extended an offer to give workshops but whose invitation was just retracted.

This entire event is one big Demfest.

Therefore, if you all want to still march as individuals, you are free to do so, but given the potential for a waste of resources, please only represent yourselves as individuals and not as a contingent of the GPCO.

I'm open to ideas about doing our own event, however. Since we will be at the People's Fair, perhaps that's a better place and time, where we won't be buried by Dem machinations.

Andrea Mérida Cuéllar

303-550-0677

sent from mobile; please forgive typos and/or tone.

Evidence

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Facebook News Feed screenshot showing a post by Damian Gonzales. The post text reads: "Ending friendships over TERFdom and SWERFdom. I'm about that life. Ya best get to stepin' if Transwomen and women in the sex industry and their rights aren't a part of your feminism. If I can unfriend my Grandpa for posting racist shit I can unfriend you too. #NoPlatformforhate". The post has 15 hours of visibility and includes a 'Like' button and a comment by Sean Michael McMullin, Dave Bell and 12 others.

Below the main post, there are several comments and replies, including one from Veronique Bellamy stating: "Véronique Bellamy Exactly. This is the reason why I unfriended my grandmother." and another from Damian Gonzales replying to Veronique: "Damian Gonzales It's tough. My family is super casual-racist. Like I know they don't even mean half the stuff they say but they still say it for the edgy laughs. And some things have become just a part of their language."

The right sidebar shows trending topics, including "MIT is giving away a \$250K cash prize award..." and "Germany rejects Trump claim it owes Nato and US 'vast sums' for defence...". It also lists recommended games and contacts.

Facebook News Feed screenshot showing a post by Veronique Bellamy. The post text reads: "Véronique Bellamy Yeah, she even tried to post some fake outrage that Caitlyn Jenner was being hailed as heroic but Tim Tebow was not and this was somehow wrong." The post has 1 hour of visibility and includes a 'Like' button and a comment by Jubei Yagyu stating: "Jubei Yagyu I wasn't really trying to cause any craziness I went to research some things and this debate got out of hand, however i did learn that life is very strange, and nature is starting to become more complex then I've ever understood."

Below the main post, there are several comments and replies, including one from Kyle Cramer stating: "Kyle Cramer Haha ruthless!!" and another from Rachelle Cramer stating: "Rachelle Cramer Talk about my grandpa on social media one more time bud...you better watch it".

The right sidebar shows trending topics, including "Recycle With PaintCare" and "Oreo Marshmallow Peeps flavored Oreo Cookies!". It also lists recommended games and contacts.



Facebook News Feed screenshot showing a post by Damian Gonzales and a sponsored Oreo advertisement.

**Post by Damian Gonzales:**  
 Your grandpa is an asshole. I love him but he's proven time and again his only real interest or care is him self.  
 Like · Reply · 2 · 1 hr

**Comment by Rachelle Cramer:**  
 Ohhhhhh ok so because he has opinions he's an asshole? What a funny thing for a democrat to say  
 Like · Reply · 47 mins

**Sponsored Post: Oreo**  
 Marshmallow Peeps flavored Oreo Cookies!

**Post by Jubel Yagyu:**  
 Riggidy Rekt son- Rick Sanchez  
 Like · Reply · 52 mins

**Post by Damian Gonzales:**  
 Any more want to come at me? Now's the Time.  
 Like · Reply · 41 mins

**Post by Kyle Cramer:**  
 Yeah I got something to say... learn to grow a fucking beard haha  
 Like · Reply · 2 · 40 mins

**Post by Jubel Yagyu:**  
 Omg yes!  
 Like · Reply · 39 mins

**Post by Damian Gonzales:**  
 It feels good knowing some of the people that want me to fail the most are my own family. Who needs enemies...  
 Like · Reply · 33 mins

**Post by Hank Myers:**  
 Damian you have the right to do whatever you want. But before you go calling your grandfather an asshole and a "casual racist" saying he only cares for himself that is messed up. I know for a fact he has ALWAYS been there for his family. Saying things like that are wrong. It would be like me letting everyone who reads your posts how know how dishonest you by using fake name as well as your own cousins name to get out of paying \$2.60 for a train ride. I believe you yourself told me you have at least 12 aliases. I'm sure you will block me from your account so be it. I guess some people are just a product of our upbringing. Good luck in your political future you seem to be on the right to becoming a true politician.  
 Like · Reply · 24 mins

**Post by Andrea Mérida Cuéllar:**  
 We shouldn't tolerate bigotry from anyone, and we shouldn't run interference for it either. Sometimes people leverage family relationships to cover for their oppressive behavior, and you don't have to take it.  
 Like · Reply · 2 · 15 mins

**Post by Damian Gonzales:**  
 For the record I have never had a sock account. No idea where you're getting you info.  
 Like · Reply · 14 mins

**Post by Andrea Mérida Cuéllar:**  
 And so what if you did?  
 Like · Reply · 13 mins

**Post by Damian Gonzales:**  
 Did you read that? I'm on the right track to becoming a 'true politician'.  
 Like · Reply · 8 mins

**Post by Andrea Mérida Cuéllar:**  
 We already pay for the lightrail with our taxes.  
 Like · Reply · 7 mins

**Post by Hank Myers:**  
 I don't know what a sock account is but when are supposed to pay for a service you are using you should. If you truly don't care about it you should use your real name and accept responsibility of your actions. We all know you are not the only person to roll the dice and ride the light rail without paying but if you are caught be an adult and use your real name and take the consequences you might receive

Facebook News Feed screenshot showing a post by Hank Myers and a sponsored Seeso advertisement.

**Post by Hank Myers:**  
 Damian you have the right to do whatever you want. But before you go calling your grandfather an asshole and a "casual racist" saying he only cares for himself that is messed up. I know for a fact he has ALWAYS been there for his family. Saying things like that are wrong. It would be like me letting everyone who reads your posts how know how dishonest you by using fake name as well as your own cousins name to get out of paying \$2.60 for a train ride. I believe you yourself told me you have at least 12 aliases. I'm sure you will block me from your account so be it. I guess some people are just a product of our upbringing. Good luck in your political future you seem to be on the right to becoming a true politician.  
 Like · Reply · 24 mins

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 We shouldn't tolerate bigotry from anyone, and we shouldn't run interference for it either. Sometimes people leverage family relationships to cover for their oppressive behavior, and you don't have to take it.  
 Like · Reply · 2 · 15 mins

**Post by Damian Gonzales:**  
 For the record I have never had a sock account. No idea where you're getting you info.  
 Like · Reply · 14 mins

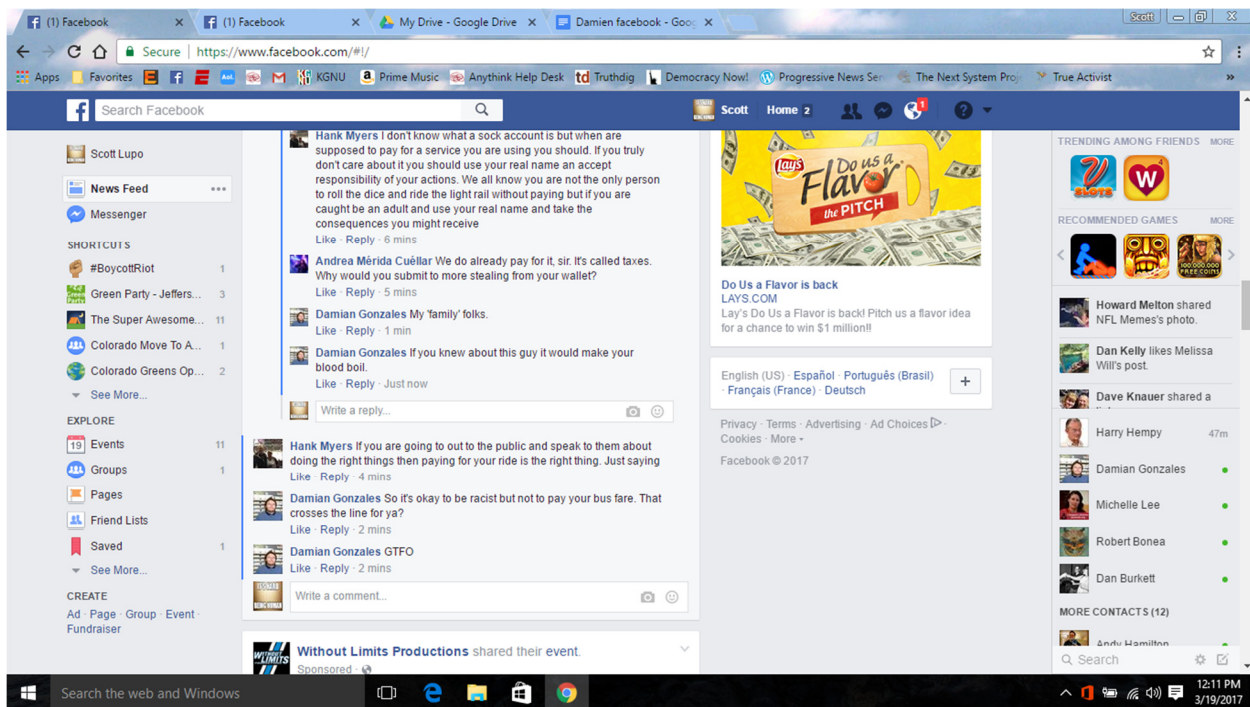
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 And so what if you did?  
 Like · Reply · 13 mins

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 Like · Reply · 7 mins

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**Sponsored Post: Seeso**  
 Season 2 of The UCB Show with Matt Besser, Amy Poehler, Ian Roberts & Matt Walsh - Now str...



## Evidence Group Appendix G: Advocating Violence

Andrea threatening violence against  
someone's free speech on Facebook  
23jan2017

seems to have been prompted by this







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
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**Dave Bell**  
January 23 at 8:59pm · 

Punching nazis is not only acceptable, it's required! Punch them in the face, with a brick!



Like Comment Share



   Andrea Mérida Cuéllar and 46 others


1 share

**Jeramy Layton** I disagree.  
Like · Reply ·  2 · January 23 at 9:06pm

Hide 16 Replies

**Rosa Clare** If you disagree with this, [Jeramy Layton](#), you're going to be really upset when you learn about WWII.  
Like · Reply ·  3 · January 23 at 9:20pm

**Jeramy Layton** Those people were in quite a different boat. Nazis were attacking people, effecting physical violence and committing genocide.  
  
This windbag has no power, and more than anything, was merely speaking his dim-witted opinion.... [See More](#)  
Like · Reply ·  2 · January 23 at 9:24pm

**Matthew Jennings** WWII was a war.  
Assaulting a windbag, regardless of what idiotic rhetoric they spew, is still assault. It's a slippery slope to say it's permissible to attack a person or group who's expressing free speech. They have the right to

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**Matthew Jennings** WWII was a war. Assaulting a windbag, regardless of what idiotic rhetoric they spew, is still assault. It's a slippery slope to say it's permissible to attack a person or group who's expressing free speech. They have the right to spew garbage, everyone else has the right not listen.  
Like · Reply · 1 · January 23 at 9:44pm

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Listen folks. Since you won't be the ones attacked by this guy, you better get out your safety pins and get to him before I do. I will fight back. Even if I have to push you away from protecting him.  
Like · Reply · 3 · January 24 at 9:57am

**Jeremy Layton** So you're saying you would actively move people away from trying to help someone who was being attacked?  
Can you seriously not hear the hypocrisy in your statement?  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:08am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** See, this is the problem with these lofty liberal ideals that don't actually work in practice. The point I'm making is that this guy's violent rhetoric is swiftly followed up with actual violence in my community and in other oppressed communities. You realize that Trump supporters are even harassing all-Latino student sport teams right now, don't you? I am saying that if this guy spouts violent rhetoric at me or an oppressed person, I will push you out of the way to administer the proper attitude adjustment, because your protecting him will be aiding and abetting fascism.  
Like · Reply · 4 · January 24 at 11:11am

**Jeremy Layton** It is? Point me to some of this 'swift follow-up violence'.  
Fascism: an authoritarian and nationalistic right-wing system of government and social organization.... [See More](#)  
Like · Reply · 1 · January 24 at 11:26am

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**Jeremy Layton** It is? Point me to some of this 'swift follow-up violence'.

Fascism: an authoritarian and nationalistic right-wing system of government and social organization.

I don't think that by protecting this man's right to speak his mind (despite him being maniacal), that's I'm aiding the growth of an authoritarian system of government. In fact, that, right there is the hypocritical idiocy of this "let's punch the Nazi" idea.

YOU - YES YOU - are making it so a random person isn't allowed to speak their mind. It doesn't matter WHAT he has to say, he legitimately has the right to say it. And you have no authority to visit violence upon him for him saying it.

This is not a 'lofty liberal idea'. This is basic fucking human decency. It's either on or off for everybody. You don't get to pick and choose. Either you get to punch Nazis in the face, and I get to punch whomever I want in the face (I pick... blonde girls, blonde girls are the /worst/). Or, how about, we all go around punching nobody in the face?

Like · Reply · 1 · January 24 at 11:36am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Basic fucking human decency? What's your track record of stopping oppression?

Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:43am

**Jeremy Layton** I dunno, jury's still out, but I've done what I can, where I can, to see that no one suffers needlessly. I'd say the best credentials I have is my time in Afghanistan, but who knows how much good or ill I've done? Or you've done?

You're not going to ... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:47am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** You actually consider the imposition of white

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**Jeremy Layton** I dunno, jury's still out, but I've done what I can, where I can, to see that no one suffers needlessly. I'd say the best credentials I have is my time in Afghanistan, but who knows how much good or ill I've done? Or you've done?

You're not going to convince me that it's alright to attack someone for saying something. I feel like you haven't actually seen the goddamned video. He was **STANDING THERE** he wasn't even saying anything inflammatory. He was hit while he was literally explaining what Pepe the fucking frog is.

If you think hitting him when he's on the street is any kind of justice, then you're a goddamned asshole. End of story.

Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:47am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** You actually consider the imposition of white imperialism on a foreign nation to be anti-oppression? Good lord. No wonder we still have cops killing black people without due process of law. Where ya been?

Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:48am

**Jeremy Layton** You literally have no idea what you're talking about. The execution of military action is much more blood and sinew than the unction of bureaucratic policy.

I helped enable communication between groups of people so they could form an alliance against local national extremists. Take your inflated sense of understanding and shove it up your hypocritical asshole.

You seriously can't seem to see it, can you? Hitting someone for what they say is lawlessness, it is the abandonment of due process. It strips them of their right to free speech. You can't seem to perform the mental gymnastics to see what it would be like if the roles were reversed, or even slightly altered.

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**Jeremy Layton** You literally have no idea what you're talking about. The execution of military action is much more blood and sinew than the unction of bureaucratic policy.

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I'll quote myself from above, because you obviously missed the point:

"Why do I get to punch the Nazi in the face, and not the conservative religious woman that hates me because I have a husband? Why don't I get to punch the random white guy in the face because he called me a faggot? Why don't I get to kill them? Where is the line drawn? How many punches do I get? How heavy the brick?"

Like · Reply · 1 · January 24 at 11:53am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** No, being the daughter of political refugees of American imperialism in Latin America, I do know exactly what I'm talking about. I'm also a veteran, shamefully so.

Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:54am

**Matthew Jennings** And you have no respect for free speech? You sound like the liberal pussy...

Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:55am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** And your questions/examples are false equivalents. The fact of the matter is that these neo-nazis are inflicting real violence on my community and others TODAY. RIGHT NOW. And

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Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:55am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** And your questions/examples are false equivalents. The fact of the matter is that these neo-nazis are inflicting real violence on my community and others TODAY. RIGHT NOW. And you are here protecting is right to do so.  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:55am

**Matthew Jennings** Meet violence with violence.  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:55am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** No, I do not have respect for any neo-nazi speech, or for that of the sympathizer. Vichy liberalism is stupid.  
Like · Reply · 1 · January 24 at 11:55am

**Jeremy Layton** No, I'm not. You absolutely fucking wrong.  
I aim to protect his RIGHT TO SPEECH.... [See More](#)  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:56am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Well, then I guess we're going to get it on. Saddle up.  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:57am

**Matthew Jennings** Was that flirting?  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:57am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Focus.  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:57am

**Jeremy Layton** Point me to the battlefield. The violence will stop, one way or another.  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:58am

**Matthew Jennings** Oy  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:58am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** You should start by protecting the vulnerable, not the fascist. That's cool. I got your number.

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**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** You should start by protecting the vulnerable, not the fascist. That's cool. I got your number.  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 11:58am

**Jeremy Layton** Do you? Best of luck out there.  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 12:00pm

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Right on.  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 12:00pm

**Matthew Jennings**



Like · Reply · 2 · January 24 at 12:10pm

**Martin A. Bates** Okay relatives, when do I get to hear what he said? I'm on the road right now, and don't always get the latest. I am, with **Andrea**, aware of what the Trump followers are doing to the already oppressed and those on the streets with them.  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 12:39pm

**Matthew Jennings** Now if anyone, preferably an Israeli Jew, had goaded him into taking the first swing and then proceeded to self defend his face into a pulp via krav maga... it'd be a different story. But

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**Matthew Jennings** Now if anyone, preferably an Israeli Jew, had goaded him into taking the first swing and then proceeded to self defend his face into a pulp via krav maga... it'd be a different story. But instead dude acted like a bitch and came in with a blindside cheap shot. That's pretty lame and unjustified.  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 1:05pm

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** A bitch? I'm a woman. Please describe what a "bitch" is in this context.  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 1:08pm

**Matthew Jennings** A coward  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 1:11pm

**Matthew Jennings** A chicken shit  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 1:12pm

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** So women are cowards?  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 1:12pm

**Matthew Jennings** You're calling women bitches, not me.  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 1:12pm

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Ah, ok. To recap, y'all are going to protect neo-nazis and their hate speech, because you basically engage in the same yourselves. Gotcha.  
Like · Reply · 1 · January 24 at 1:13pm

**Matthew Jennings** I'm not defending neo nazis  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 1:14pm

**Matthew Jennings** Or their hate speech  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 1:14pm

[View more replies](#)

Write a reply... Chat (1)

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**Matthew Jennings** Or their hate speech  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 1:14pm

**Jeremy Layton** You're accusing 'us' of hate speech and neo-Nazism. Because we believe that words should not be met with violence. Absolute horse-shit.  
Like · Reply · 1 · January 24 at 1:14pm

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** No, you're the appeaser for hate speech. The other guy is using sexist language. Essentially you're all on the same level, but nuances matter.  
Like · Reply · 2 · January 24 at 1:18pm

**Jeremy Layton** See? Now we can agree on something. We're all sexist, hate-speech appeasers, and you're an anarchist who's trying to suppress free speech because you don't agree with what's being said.  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 1:20pm

**Jeremy Layton** FUCK THE GOVERNMENT! VIVA LA FACE-PUNCH!  
Like · Reply · January 24 at 1:20pm

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** No, actually, I am a socialist. I oppose all the hate speech that liberals get all lofty and useless about.  
Like · Reply · 1 · January 24 at 1:21pm

**Jeremy Layton** You keep saying lofty like it excuses you from the ramifications of silencing someone because you don't like what they're saying.

I refer back to my original questions: How many times do I get to punch the Nazi? Can I kick him? What about bricks? Bricks were brought up. How heavy a brick can I hit him with? Aw, hell, why not just let me kill him? Why not let me kill the guy who calls me a faggot? Why not let me kill whomever I want? Is there a vetting process necessary before we determine who gets punch/killed for their

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Like · Reply · 1 · January 24 at 1:23pm

**Matthew Jennings**



Like · Reply · January 24 at 1:33pm

**Matthew Jennings** Socialism is for sheep.  
Your idol a monster and guilty of crimes against humanity.  
Keep calling me a liberal all you want, but step foot onto my property and you'll find yourself with .357 reasons to think about why that was a bad idea. See Matt

Chat (2)

# Andrea again advocates punching a nazi

10 February 2017

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andrea mérida cuéllar - Fac... x +

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**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** shared Red & Black Anarchists's photo.  
10 hrs · 🌐

This is why it's now necessary to [#punchnazis](#). Get to 'em before I do.

**Erika Heidewald**   
@erikaheidewald

A lot of people will vigorously defend fascists' right to incite genocide but spend no time defending minorities' right to speak up.

2/4/17, 7:58 PM from [Los Angeles, CA](#)

**Erika Heidewald**   
@erikaheidewald

If the only time you defend free speech is

**Berniecrats**  
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## Evidence Group Appendix H: Hijacking State Meeting



Facebook post by Jason Justice with Cliff Willmeng and 69 others. 19 hrs · 🌐

I'm not a tagger, but this is a call for revolutionary action. And my partner is much to good a person to put me up to this. So

Comrades. Are you a registered Green? We need your help and solidarity here. There is a faction within the Colorado Green Party, this REVOLUTIONARY party, of white men who spend their time acting as a barrier to our commitment to communities under the boot of capitalism. And just as heinous and counter-revolutionary as these contrarian and privileged white men are, they for sure don't like an uppity brown woman in the form of my partner Andrea Merida organizing to help POC, veterans, the homeless, the disabled, and the working class. I need to ask a huge favor. Our state meeting is Saturday, August 12th from 9am to 4:30. I am asking you to come support your Comrade, Andrea Merida, who is the State Co-Chair and up for re-election. Her detractors are men who, on top of lacking any honor and solidarity with the working class, are trying hard to solidify their "right" to not fight for the people, not work to organize, and be contrarian to the ideals of revolution and intersectionality. My ask is this-

1. If you are registered Green, come to the State meeting. This is the right fight, this is the right time. We in Denver are working to get our Comrade Julie Banuelos elected to the Denver School Board in an at large position which would strike a blow against the establishment. We are hoping to start working to get the camping ban lifted in Denver. And we are working to establish a weekly anti-war protest in downtown Denver.
2. If you aren't a registered Green- Register as a Green today and stay registered until after the State Meeting. Some of my friends are Dems, Independents, and Anarchists. The forces of racism and white supremacy are reluctant to let go of their hold on any movement that may upset their privilege. You don't have to

Suggested Groups

Atheist vs Theist Debates w/o Bans or Blocking  
36,122 members

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TRENDING AMONG FRIENDS

RECOMMENDED GAMES

Cliff Willmeng and Michele Ritenour are now friends.

Kimberly Shepard Carlson likes Marcie Jackson's post.

In Anna Wilkerson likes

YOUR PAGES

Green Party - Jefferson C...  
R-Squared Conferen...

CONTACTS

Theresa Cruthers  
Ronnie Storey  
Sean Michael McMullin

Facebook post by Jason Justice with Cliff Willmeng and 69 others. 19 hrs · 🌐

to establish a weekly anti-war protest in downtown Denver.

2. If you aren't a registered Green- Register as a Green today and stay registered until after the State Meeting. Some of my friends are Dems, Independents, and Anarchists. The forces of racism and white supremacy are reluctant to let go of their hold on any movement that may upset their privilege. You don't have to stay a Green (although that would be hip) but it's a tangible place to win against the forces of white supremacy and mediocrity. Locally and nationally, the Green Party has embraced the ideas of eco socialism, anti fascism, and anti capitalism. In the words of Che Guevara- Above all, always be capable of feeling deeply any injustice committed against anyone, anywhere in the world. This is the most beautiful quality in a revolutionary.

Come for the revolution, stay for the Party!

Here is the kicker, you have to be registered as a Green 90 days before the meeting. That means by at least Friday May 12th. We have made it impossible to do same day registration at the meeting for voting purposes because there have been many attempts to take over Green locals around the country by white folks who aren't down for the struggle. I can't let that happen here in Colorado. So go to the link at the bottom here and register as a Green. The Green Party of Denver, Colorado, and the USA want to be the revolutionary electoral option you want and need us to be. The reason that we are poised to do so on every level is your Comrade and my partner Andrea Merida. Is always there for you. Be there for her. (plus it will be a great opportunity to make some sorry-ass white dudes suck their thumbs)

Colorado Secretary of State - Voter Registration - Verify Your Identification

Suggested Groups

Atheist vs Theist Debates w/o Bans or Blocking  
36,122 members

Friend Requests

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TRENDING AMONG FRIENDS

RECOMMENDED GAMES

Cliff Willmeng and Michele Ritenour are now friends.

Kimberly Shepard Carlson likes Marcie Jackson's post.

In Anna Wilkerson likes

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Green Party - Jefferson C...  
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CONTACTS

Michelle Lee  
Theresa Cruthers  
Ronnie Storey

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(50) Jason Justice x (50) Jason Justice - I'm not ... x +

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 **Jason Justice** with Dave Bell and 69 others.  
April 17 at 11:31pm · 

I'm not a tagger, but this is a call for revolutionary action. And my partner is much to good a person to put me up to this. So...

Comrades. Are you a registered Green? We need your help and solidarity here. There is a faction within the Colorado Green Party, this REVOLUTIONARY party, of white men who spend their time acting as a barrier to our commitment to communities under the boot of capitalism. And just as heinous and counter-revolutionary as these contrarian and privileged white men are, they for sure don't like an uppity brown woman in the form of my partner Andrea Merida organizing to help POC, veterans, the homeless, the disabled, and the working class. I need to ask a huge favor. Our state meeting is Saturday, August 12th from 9am to 4:30. I am asking you to come support your Comrade, Andrea Merida, who is the State Co-Chair and up for re-election. Her detractors are men who, on top of lacking any honor and solidarity with the working class, are trying hard to solidify their "right" to not fight for the people, not work to organize, and be contrarian to the ideals of revolution and intersectionality. My ask is this-

1. If you are registered Green, come to the State meeting. This is the right fight, this is the right time. We in Denver are working to get our Comrade Julie Banuelos elected to the Denver School Board in an at large position which would strike a blow against the establishment. We are hoping to start working to get the camping ban lifted in Denver. And we are working to establish a weekly anti-war protest in downtown Denver.
2. If you aren't a registered Green-

Register as a Green today and stay registered until after the State

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Chat (2)



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2. If you aren't a registered Green-  
 Register as a Green today and stay registered until after the State Meeting. Some of my friends are Dems, Independents, and Anarchists. The forces of racism and white supremacy are reluctant to let go of their hold on any movement that may upset their privilege. You don't have to stay a Green (although that would be hip) but it's a tangible place to win against the forces of white supremacy and mediocrity. Locally and nationally, the Green Party has embraced the ideas of eco socialism, anti fascism, and anti capitalism. In the words of Che Guevara-  
 Above all, always be capable of feeling deeply any injustice committed against anyone, anywhere in the world. This is the most beautiful quality in a revolutionary.  
 Come for the revolution, stay for the Party!  
 Here is the kicker, you have to be registered as a Green 90 days before the meeting. That means by at least Friday May 12th. We have made it impossible to do same day registration at the meeting for voting purposes because there have been many attempts to take over Green locals around the country by white folks who aren't down for the struggle. I can't let that happen here in Colorado. So go to the link at the bottom here and register as a Green. The Green Party of Denver, Colorado, and the USA want to be the revolutionary electoral option you want and need us to be. The reason that we are poised to do so on every level is your Comrade and my partner Andrea Merida. Is always there for you. Be there for her. (plus it will be a great opportunity to make some sorry-ass white dudes suck their thumbs).

Colorado Secretary of State - Voter Registration </br> Verify Your

Chat (2)

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**Colorado Secretary of State Wayne W.**  
SOS.STATE.CO.US

Registration, ID, Ferry, Your Identification

Like Comment Share

Dave Bell and 29 others

**Deneen Raptor** Ivy Ebersole-Raptor, Shoshannah Ebersole-Raptor  
Like · Reply · Yesterday at 5:47am

**H-Soul Ashemu** White Men suck!! (except when they don't)....lol.....I'll be there.  
Like · Reply · 10 · Yesterday at 7:15am

Jason Justice replied · 1 Reply

**Erik Charles Troe** You best believe I'll be in your corner!  
Like · Reply · 1 · Yesterday at 7:27am

**Carrie Lu Whoo** Jeez. I'm so not a joiner but I'm feeling compelled to join for the lovely Andrea alone!  
Like · Reply · 7 · Yesterday at 8:26am

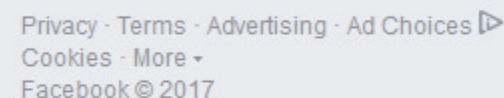
**Carrie Lu Whoo** My man is in board too!  
Like · Reply · 1 · Yesterday at 8:34am

**Carrie Lu Whoo** Done.  
Like · Reply · 1 · Yesterday at 8:44am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Thanks, you two!  
Like · Reply · Yesterday at 9:03am

Chat (2)





## Evidence Group Appendix I: Positioning for Control

## GPCO Forum

**Council => Proposal Agreement Seeking => Topic started by: Brittany Hoover on August 23, 2015, 10:30:49 PM**

Title: **Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **August 23, 2015, 10:30:49 PM**

This is Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation

Please read the proposal and keep comments on the topic of the proposal only.

Designate your vote by using the following terms: AGREE, BLOCK, or STAND ASIDE. Any blocks will require a vote of the council

Per Section 4.3 of the GPCO Bylaws, "All decisions concerning policy, finance, and objectives shall require consensus or a vote of at least 60% of the membership present at a state meeting and/or the Council".

There are currently eight ( 8 ) active voting chapters in the Green Party of Colorado. A vote of at least 60% quorum requires at least one response from five ( 5 ) chapters.

Active Chapters  
Adams/Jefferson  
Arapahoe County  
Denver  
Douglas  
Greater Boulder  
Pikes Peak  
San Miguel  
Southwest

The floor is now open for one week of Agreement Seeking (August 31st, 2015).

Thank You,  
Brittany Hoover, Council Facillitator

### **1. Basic Info:**

Date proposed: August 23, 2015  
Name of the sponsor(s): Andrea Merida, Bill Bartlett

### **2. Title: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

### **3. Text of the actual Proposal:**

Article III, section 1 of the bylaws shall be amended to read:

A Green Local must agree to:

- \* Accept the Ten Key Values and to manage the chapter in accordance with those values.
- \* Abide by the bylaws of the Green Party of Colorado.
- \* Openly support only the national candidates selected by Green convention, state level candidates nominated at a Green Party of Colorado nominating convention, and local

candidates selected with the criteria specified in sections 4.5.4 and 4.5.5 of these bylaws.

- \* Make a good faith effort, where reasonable, to increase the number of Green voter registrations within the boundaries of their chapter.

- \* Make a good faith effort to run state and local candidates.

- \* Make a good faith effort to increase the number of qualified voting members within their chapter.

- \* Make a good faith effort to fundraise for the operation of their chapter and to assist in the operation of the Green Party of Colorado.

- \* Demonstrate evidence of commitment to, and good faith efforts to achieve, gender balance in party leadership and representation.

- \* Demonstrate evidence of good faith efforts to empower individuals and groups from oppressed communities, through, for example, leadership responsibilities, identity caucuses and alliances with community-based organizations, and endorsements of issues and policies.

Chapter officers and council representatives must not have been registered as a member of a political party other than the Green Party of Colorado for at least thirty days before nomination and must maintain registration as a Green Party of Colorado voter throughout the duration of the officer's/representative's term.

A Green local must present its proposed bylaws for approval, and be approved by 60% of the voting Greens at a state party meeting, or by the state council.

**4. Background:** At present, our bylaws language places more party affiliation requirements on candidates seeking nomination than on the chapter itself. This language is intended to align the two issues.

**5. Justification/Goals:** To provide some guidelines and standards for Green Locals and Officers.

**6. Pros and Cons:** These changes give some guidance to present and future Green Locals about how they are expected to operate, benchmarks for success, and standards for maintaining their affiliation with the Green Party of Colorado. There are drawbacks to some of this language; some people may be less interested in being an Officer knowing they cannot change their affiliation to participate in other party's electoral processes.

**7. Alternatives to the proposal:** Take no action, remove the Officer party registration constraints.

**8. References:** See the GPCO Bylaws.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **August 23, 2015, 10:33:52 PM**

Agree.

Thank you, Brittney!

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Jason Justice** on **August 23, 2015, 10:46:30 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Laura C.** on **August 24, 2015, 04:54:03 AM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Susan Hall** on **August 24, 2015, 12:07:09 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Bob Kinsey** on **August 24, 2015, 09:00:27 PM**

agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Larry Dunn** on **August 25, 2015, 02:46:24 PM**

Agree!

Larry Dunn  
GP-AJ Co-Chair

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Chris Allen** on **August 25, 2015, 03:32:12 PM**

Agree!!!

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **August 25, 2015, 05:47:03 PM**

Do not agree as worded. Too much micro-managing. All the good faith efforts require time that some chapter volunteers/officers do not have. Also, the statement to support "only..." could be interpreted to apply to issues as well. It also does not address supporting other party candidates when there is no Green Party candidate for a particular office.

I think it needs work before voting. As worded I would vote no.

Michael Haughey  
AJ Greens

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **August 26, 2015, 08:16:40 AM**

Michael,

Can you clarify your vote? As stated in the proposal: agree, stand aside, and block are acceptable forms of voting. A blocking vote from you will halt agreement seeking and move the proposal to a vote instead. A stand aside vote will keep the proposal here until enough "agree" votes have been reached.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Bill Bartlett** on **August 26, 2015, 09:50:42 PM**

Agree.

I was a little hesitant about making these changes, but we need some ways for the state to at least give guidance to new (and existing) local chapters about how they operate and how they might be expected to perform.

The reason we used the phrase "good faith effort" is to keep it open to interpretation. We could play with the language but the intent is that we would like local chapters to be doing their best at things like increasing voter registration, doing fundraisers, supporting candidates, maintaining balance in leadership roles, etc..

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Scott Lupo** on **August 27, 2015, 01:30:13 PM**

I agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **August 28, 2015, 10:24:50 AM**

I am classifying Michaels vote as a stand aside until I hear otherwise from him. With that, the proposal has passed withOut consensus but within parameters.

Final Tally:

9 Agree  
1 Stand Aside  
0 Block

6/8 Chapters Voting.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **August 28, 2015, 10:36:13 AM**

I am persuaded by Michael Haughey's position:

Quote

Posted by: Michael Haughey « on: August 25, 2015, 05:47:03 PM »  
Do not agree as worded. Too much micro-managing. . . . It also does not address supporting other party candidates when there is no Green Party candidate for a particular office.  
I think it needs work before voting. As worded I would vote no.

My position is BLOCK.

At this point only three chapters are in agreement with the proposal (Denver, Douglas, and Pikes Peak). I think the general membership should be allowed to vote on this proposal at the annual meeting. Failing that, I call on the sponsors of this proposal to withdraw it.

Harry Hempy, Greater Boulder Greens

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **August 28, 2015, 10:39:33 AM**

Denver, Douglas, Pikes Peak, A/J, Boulder and Arapahoe.

(sorry, Poudre isn't active)

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **August 28, 2015, 02:04:08 PM**

Andrea,

There is not full support from Adams/Jefferson or Greater Boulder.

Who from Arapahoe agrees?

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **August 28, 2015, 02:05:06 PM**

Harry, it's never been my understanding that a chapter needs to be unanimous.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Sean Friend** on **August 28, 2015, 02:29:18 PM**

I'm late to the party, my apologies.

Agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **August 28, 2015, 02:36:46 PM**

GPCO Procedures say

Quote

3.5.4 Proposals for ACTION will be called by the current convener/facilitator, who will announce a week period of Consensus discussion of a proposal. . . . If, at the end of the first week, we have reached quorum and have had full support and no proposed amendments or blocking concerns, the proposal will be accepted by consensus. . . .

Full support means unanimous to me. I'll respect the facilitator's interpretation, of course.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **August 28, 2015, 02:38:22 PM**

I can totally understand where you're coming from. For me, we know that an individual can block, and they don't have to wait for a chapter to block. It should follow that individuals then vote on their own.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **August 28, 2015, 03:01:15 PM**

With Harry's block, I'll be moving this into the voting thread. Check back in about five minutes.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **August 28, 2015, 03:04:51 PM**

<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=258.0>

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **August 28, 2015, 03:08:17 PM**

I don't know what it means for 'a chapter to block', but more to the point:

I am maintaining my BLOCK position on proposal 008 because I want Colorado Greens to discuss it tomorrow without a position from Council. Council exists to maintain communications with chapters and take action between annual meetings. Council is not charged with steering policy. That role belongs to the members of the Green Party at its annual meeting.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Bill Bartlett** on **August 28, 2015, 03:09:30 PM**

"Council is not charged with steering policy. That role belongs to the members of the Green Party at its annual meeting."

Could you explain this statement Harry?

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **August 28, 2015, 04:30:07 PM**

Council's role is defined in these sections of GPCO bylaws:

Quote

4.2.2. The Council will meet and make decisions between state meetings by means determined by council.

4.2.3. The Council sets the agenda for the state meetings, decides on issues needing expedient attention between state meetings, handles administrative tasks, and acts as representative to the press on state issues, as well as representing the Green Party of Colorado to groups interested in establishing locals where none exist. The Council can make appropriations from the GPCO bank account of \$200 per item or less by a 60% vote of the Council, in consultation with the Treasurer to insure availability of funds. Expenditures above \$200 per item require consensus of the Council or a 60% vote at a state meeting.

There is nothing about "steering". Grassroots party members steer the Council; not the other way around.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Bill Bartlett** on **August 28, 2015, 04:32:17 PM**

That is an interesting interpretation, if somewhat abstract.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **August 28, 2015, 04:41:29 PM**

My vote was not a stand aside. I would have said that if that is what I intended. I was advising that the proposal needs revision.

The "best efforts" reasoning goes beyond the "good faith efforts" and is un-definable. For volunteers, best efforts are unreasonable. We should be grateful for any efforts.

Encourage, not require and mandate.



Michael Haughey  
AJ Greens

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **August 28, 2015, 04:42:39 PM**

I just responded to you on the vote thread. Long story short, I agree that this is about encouraging, and the chapter needs to set its own manageable goals.

The intent is to keep moving forward in party building.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **August 28, 2015, 04:45:46 PM**

Michael it's clearly stated in the original post to designate your vote as agree stad aside or block. Your vote of a "no" is not an appropriate response. Please respond appropriately in the future to avoid confusion and avoid unnecessary delays such as with this thread.  
Thanks.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Chris Allen** on **August 28, 2015, 11:38:57 PM**

Douglas already agreed on the 25th of August. :)

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## Evidence Group Appendix J: GPCO Bylaws

## I. Name

The name of this Political Organization is The Green Party of Colorado.

## II. Purpose and Values

2.1 The purpose of this organization is to work towards a “Green” society as represented by the **10 Key Values** of The Green Party of the United States.

The aforementioned values are as follows:

Ecological Wisdom

Social Justice

Grassroots Democracy

Nonviolence

Decentralization

Community-Based Economics

Feminism

Respect for Diversity

Personal and Global Responsibility

Future Focus

2.2 This political organization may use any and all **nonviolent methods** to affect social change, including, but not restricted to: ballot initiatives, electoral campaigns, community organizing, and educational forums.

2.3 The Green Party of Colorado (GPCO) is the **affiliate** of the Green Party of the United States for the State of Colorado.

## III. Membership

3.1 A **Green Local** must agree to:

\* Accept the Ten Key Values and to manage the chapter in accordance with those values.

\* Abide by the bylaws of the Green Party of Colorado.

- \* Openly support only the national candidates selected by Green convention, state level candidates nominated at a Green Party of Colorado nominating convention, and local candidates selected with the criteria specified in sections 4.5.4 and 4.5.5 of these bylaws.
- \* Make a good faith effort, where reasonable, to increase the number of Green voter registrations within the boundaries of their chapter.
- \* Make a good faith effort to run state and local candidates.
- \* Make a good faith effort to increase the number of qualified voting members within their chapter.
- \* Make a good faith effort to fundraise for the operation of their chapter and to assist in the operation of the Green Party of Colorado.
- \* Demonstrate evidence of commitment to, and good faith efforts to achieve, gender balance in party leadership and representation.
- \* Demonstrate evidence of good faith efforts to empower individuals and groups from oppressed communities, through, for example, leadership responsibilities, identity caucuses and alliances with community-based organizations, and endorsements of issues and policies.

Chapter officers and council representatives must not have been registered as a member of a political party other than the Green Party of Colorado for at least thirty days before nomination and must maintain registration as a Green Party of Colorado voter throughout the duration of the officer's/representative's term.

A Green local must present its proposed bylaws for approval, and be approved by 60% of the voting Greens at a state party meeting, or by the state council.

3.1.1 A Green local shall be placed in **Inactive Status** if it fails to send any representatives to a state meeting or if it fails to have representatives vote for three or more consecutive votes on the council, or if it no longer has any active members on the council. Council members will be considered inactive if they do not vote on three consecutive votes. They will be notified of their status by the Council Facilitator immediately upon missing the third vote. They can be reactivated by notifying the Council Facilitator that they wish to be reactivated and by voting on the next Council vote. Council representatives cannot be reactivated in an Inactive or defunct local. For absence at a state meeting, the local will be notified by the Secretary within one week of the meeting. Once placed in Inactive Status, a local will not be counted in the quorum for votes and its representatives will not be allowed to vote. For missing votes on the Council, the local will be notified by the Council Facilitator immediately upon failing to vote for the third time, or when it no longer has any representatives on the Council.

3.1.1.1 A Green local can be **removed** from the Green Party of Colorado for any cause

by a vote of at least 75% of the voting Greens at a state party meeting, or by consensus of the Council, not counting the local being removed.

3.1.1.2 A Green local can be **reinstated** to Active Status by submitting a written request (email is acceptable) for reinstatement to the Council or to a state meeting, listing its new active members for the Council and being approved by at least a 60% vote of the voting Greens at a state meeting, or by at least a 60% vote of the Council.

3.1.1.3 If a Green local has been in Inactive Status for more than six months, it will be considered to be **defunct** and will be removed entirely as a Green local. To be reinstated, the local will have to go through the same procedures as a new local.

3.2 **Membership** in the Green Party of Colorado is open to anyone regardless of sexual orientation, race, national origin, religion, etc. A member shall subscribe to the Ten Key Values and be registered with the state of Colorado as affiliated with the Green Party of Colorado and maintain that registration. Members of a Green local may vote on state issues at general state meetings and may serve on the Council.

3.2.1 If there is no local in a county, an individual may maintain an **independent membership** with the Green Party of Colorado by registering in the county of residence as affiliated with the Green Party of Colorado, by subscribing to the 10 Key Values and these bylaws and upon approval of 60% of the voting Greens (at least three fourths of all locals represented) at a state party meeting.

3.3 The right of participation of an individual in the Green Party of Colorado can be revoked by a Green local using its own criteria or by a 75% vote of the members at a Green Party of Colorado state meeting. **Revocation of the rights** of participation must be based on failure of the individual to adhere to the purpose and methods of the Green Party of Colorado. Any individual must be informed of the potential revocation of their rights of participation at least three weeks prior to the vote and have a chance to speak in his or her defense at the meeting when the vote is held.

#### **3.4. Endorsements and Sign-ons on public issues:**

3.4.1 Any proposal for endorsement or sign-on from a Chapter, a Chapter representative, a Committee co-chair, or Officer of the GPCO will be considered by the Council.

3.4.2. Any endorsement or sign-on requiring the commitment of GPCO resources (money, people, time, etc.) must clearly state the requirements and where the resource will come from.



## IV. Structure

4.1 **State meetings** will be held yearly or more frequently at a location agreed upon by the members at the previous meeting, or by a special call of the Council at its discretion. **Nominating conventions** and meetings to elect state officers must be announced by the Secretary in a newspaper of statewide circulation 15 days before the meeting. State meetings are those where party business is conducted. The state nominating convention is held in even number years — every two years for the purpose of nominating candidates for public office in Colorado; and every four years for conducting the presidential preference process and selecting delegates to the Green Party of the United States national convention.

4.1.1. In order for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a **quorum** of at least 60% of local chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of Colorado) equal to twice the number of local chapters represented.

**4.2 The Green Party of Colorado Council** (referred to as “Council” elsewhere in these bylaws).

4.2.1. The Council is composed of up to four representatives from each local in Colorado, elected by the members of their respective locals in any manner they chose at a regular meeting of that local for terms as long as the local approves, as well as the two state co-chairs, all other state party officers, and the representatives and alternates to the Green Party of the United States. Locals will also define their own recall or removal process. Council representatives must have email access and agree to read and respond to Council emails at least once within any ten-day period. The Council may also be referred to as the Steering Committee or Central Committee of the Green Party of Colorado for compliance with state law.

*4.2.2. The Council will meet and make decisions between state meetings by means determined by council.*

4.2.3. The Council sets the agenda for the state meetings, decides on issues needing expedient attention between state meetings, handles administrative tasks, and acts as representative to the press on state issues, as well as representing the Green Party of Colorado to groups interested in establishing locals where none exist. The Council can make appropriations from the GPCO bank account of \$200 per item or less by a 60% vote of the Council, in consultation with the Treasurer to insure availability of funds.



Expenditures above \$200 per item require consensus of the Council or a 60% vote at a state meeting.

4.2.4. All decisions of the Council are subject to review at the next state meeting and may be overturned by a 60% vote.

4.2.4.1 The Council can modify these bylaws between state meetings when required to meet new state legal requirements in a timely fashion. These modifications will be reviewed and approved at the next state meeting after any such changes.

4.3 All **decisions** concerning policy, finance, and objectives shall require consensus or a vote of at least 60% of the membership present at a state meeting and/or the Council. The Green Party of Colorado may adopt a party Platform by consensus or a vote of at least 60% of the membership present at a state meeting. To endorse or oppose a ballot initiative or referendum, or to take a stance on a public issue, shall require consensus or a vote of at least 60% of the membership present at a state meeting and/or the Council. Party officers and national representatives shall be chosen by consensus or a vote of at least 60% of members present at the annual meeting.

4.4 The Green Party of Colorado, as a minor political party, will nominate candidates at a nominating convention, held at least 65 days before the primary in even numbered years in a location accessible to the public.

4.4.1 All registered Greens in attendance at a state convention are eligible to vote at that convention.

4.4.2 The membership of GPCO local chapters will be responsible for selecting **candidates** for local political office and will be responsible for forwarding those nominations for ratification to the state nominating convention. Candidates chosen by Green locals must be ratified at a state party convention to ensure they meet legal requirements.

4.4.3 Any person seeking **nomination** by the Green Party of Colorado as a candidate for a state or national office must be endorsed by the local chapter in their county of residence or as otherwise provided in 4.4.5. If there is no local chapter in their county of residence and they are an independent member of the Green Party of Colorado, then they must be endorsed by at least one local chapter in the district that they would represent in the legislature or in the state as a whole for a state office. If no such authorization is given, then no Green Party of Colorado candidate will run in that jurisdiction.

4.4.4 A candidate for nomination to a statewide office must be endorsed by the local



chapter in which they reside, or receive the endorsement of at least three other local groups from around the state.

#### **4.5 Candidates must meet the following criteria:**

4.5.1. Candidates shall embrace the 10 Key Values and shall use these values as a basis for their political decision making.

4.5.2. The candidate must maintain active membership in a local chapter of the Green Party of Colorado or if no local chapter exists in the county, they must be an independent member of the Green Party of Colorado, as defined in section 3.2.1. Candidates seeking the nomination of the Green Party of Colorado for any office shall announce their candidacy by notifying either a state co-chair (for federal or state office) or the chair/co-chair of their local Green group (for county or local office) no later than forty-five days before the nominating convention. Greens not affiliated with local chapters shall notify the state co-chairs no later than forty-five days before the convention. This provision will not supersede any local Green group requirements that are more stringent. They must maintain contact with the Green Party of Colorado.

4.5.3. Potential candidates not a member of a GPCO local chapter, or who are candidates for statewide or national office, must have formal approval either by consensus or by 30% of the delegates present at a state nominating convention of the Green Party of Colorado in even numbered years. If two or more candidates obtain 30% or more of the votes cast, the candidates shall submit to a primary, as provided for by state law.

4.5.4 Candidates for partisan political office must not have been registered as a member of a political party other than the Green Party of Colorado for at least thirty days before nomination.

4.5.5 In order to be eligible for nomination, a candidate for partisan political office must be a registered elector of the Green Party of Colorado at least thirty days prior to the date of nomination.

4.5.6. In considering candidacies for Governor and Lt. Governor of Colorado, candidates will run as a pair to avoid having only one candidate nominated when two are required.

4.5.7. After a nominating convention, a Green Party of Colorado state co-chair will be responsible for notifying the proper election officer of the nominations as required by state law. The candidates then must send acceptance of the nominations to the proper election official within the time frame specified by state law.





4.5.8. A Green Party of Colorado candidate shall not be a registered member of any other political party or political organization.

4.5.9 If a Colorado Green Party nomination is vacated, or there is any vacancy in an elected office, the state party officers shall constitute the **Vacancy Committee** to make appointments as stipulated under state law.

## 4.6 Committees

4.6.1 A GPCO committee may be created or dissolved by a 60% vote of the Council or state meeting.

4.6.2. GPCO Committees shall have two co-chairs who shall be registered Greens, and at least two of whose members are active members of local GPCO chapters. Co-chairs call meetings and set rules for participation at their discretion. Committees report to and are responsible to the Council and GPCO state meetings.

## V. Officers

5.1 In order to serve the growth of the GPCO and to communicate our message, platform and values to the public, the GPCO will elect two state **co-chairs** to two year terms. Every effort shall be made to reach gender and geographic diversity.

## 5.2 Duties

5.2.1. If one co-chair is unable to perform her/his duties or is absent at a meeting, the other co-chair will assume all duties. If both co-chairs are present they will alternate assuming the duties of the Chair.

5.2.2. To facilitate state meetings and the state Council, or choose a representative to do so.

5.2.3. To be spokespersons for the state party to the press and other organizations. Such spokespersons can also be chosen by a majority vote at state meetings or by the state council.

5.2.4. To assist the growth of the state party by overseeing outreach efforts to parts of the state where we are not organized, and by assisting the nearest affiliated local chapter in doing so.

5.2.5. The state council may choose to delegate its authority to the co-chairs when it believes that time will not be adequate to make decisions. This authority of delegation only includes those actions the Council is authorized to take. It does not include those



decision reserved for state party meetings.

5.2.6 Co-chairs will monitor that official filings required to be made by the secretary and treasurer occur in a timely manner.

### **5.3 Representatives to the Green Party of the United States**

5.3.1 The GPCO will choose representatives to the national Green Party for indefinite terms, not to exceed two years. Every effort shall be made to include diversity at all levels, including but not limited to, gender, ethnic, racial and geographic. At the first meeting after two years as representative, there must be a vote for that position. Representatives may seek further terms. If a vacancy occurs, the Council may choose replacements – temporary (for the purpose of attending meetings) or permanent (to complete the remaining term) – as necessary. Permanent representatives chosen by the Council will be ratified at the following state meeting.

5.3.2 These representatives, whose number is determined by the bylaws and rules of the national Green Party, will represent the GPCO in all votes. Votes by these representatives can be determined by a decision of the state council, or by the representatives themselves. If the representatives deem that the vote is clearly within the scope of the Ten Key Values and the platform of the GPCO, and would likely result in a consensus of the Council, they may vote without consulting the Council, but are required to announce this vote to the Council by email within three days, and must include the text of the proposal and any such supporting material as was provided with the original proposal. Such votes should occur, where feasible, more than three days prior to the end of the voting period in case the Council decides that it wishes to reverse the decision of the representatives. Such a decision of reversal can be communicated to the Secretary of the national Green Party either directly by the Council, or through the representatives. Representatives should also announce all votes to the statewide list-serve at least quarterly, and Council members should summarize such votes at meetings of affiliated locals.

5.3.3 In the case of national meetings, representatives shall send the agenda and related materials to the State Council as soon as it is available, and from there to all local chapters. Via the Council, the representatives will be informed of any direction regarding scheduled votes. But the default condition will be that representatives will be free to apply the values and platform of the GPCO at the meeting as they see fit, based on the discussion of proposals and any amendments that may occur.

5.3.4 Representatives to national meetings shall make a good-faith effort to travel to



national meetings of the Green Party. Should their schedule or financial status conflict with this, they must communicate this to the State Council to see if the problem can be remedied, either with financial support, or by choosing a temporary representative who can travel to the meeting. The GPCO shall make every effort to ensure that representation of the GPCO is not determined by financial resources, or lack thereof.

#### **5.4 Secretary**

The Secretary shall fulfill the role of secretary under state law and shall be responsible for handling candidate nominations as required by state law; keeping accurate minutes of state meetings and nominating conventions; updating the bylaws and procedures and guidelines and filing bylaw changes with the Secretary of State, as required by state law; and announcing in a newspaper of general statewide circulation, as required by state law, nominating conventions and state meetings to elect officers.

#### **5.5 Treasurer**

The Treasurer is responsible for filings and financial reporting as required by state law, disburse funds as directed by the Council, and present a balance report at each state meeting.

5.6 The membership of the Green Party of Colorado may create any office as needed. A vote of three fourths majority of members present at a state meeting must approve any new officership.

5.7 Co-chairs shall be chosen at each annual state meeting and other officers in odd number years to serve two year terms in office.

5.8 If a Green Party of Colorado officer's position is vacated in between official state meetings, the Council or both co-chairs in agreement may make a temporary appointment in the manner as specified in the Procedures and Guidelines until the next state meeting under consultation with each local.

5.9 If any officer or national representative is found to be in contempt of the goals of the Green Party of Colorado, recall proceedings shall be invoked. A three fourths majority of voting members present at a state meeting and/or the Council is required to achieve the recall of an officer.

### **VI. Amendments**

6.1 These bylaws may be amended on a three-fifths vote by members present at a state meeting or by the state council. A written copy of adopted bylaws (with any current amendments) will be maintained by the Secretary.

***Approved August 29, 2015, Denver, Colorado***

Please click on a link below to open a copy of the Colorado Green Party Bylaws in a pdf format.

[Current GPCO Bylaws](#), revised August 29, 2015

[GPCO Bylaws](#), revised March 31, 2012

[GPCO Bylaws](#), revised June 2011

[GPCO Bylaws](#), revised 2010

[GPCO Bylaws](#), revised 2009

[GPCO Bylaws](#), revised 2007

[Green Party of Colorado Bylaws 2006](#)

[Green Party of Colorado Bylaws 2005](#)

[April, 2004 Bylaws Version](#)

[April, 2003 version](#)

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## GPCO Forum

**Council => Proposal Agreement Seeking => Topic started by: Brittany Hoover on August 23, 2015, 10:30:49 PM**

Title: <b>Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation</b> Post by: <b>Brittany Hoover</b> on <b>August 23, 2015, 10:30:49 PM</b>
---

This is Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation

Please read the proposal and keep comments on the topic of the proposal only.

Designate your vote by using the following terms: AGREE, BLOCK, or STAND ASIDE. Any blocks will require a vote of the council

Per Section 4.3 of the GPCO Bylaws, "All decisions concerning policy, finance, and objectives shall require consensus or a vote of at least 60% of the membership present at a state meeting and/or the Council".

There are currently eight ( 8 ) active voting chapters in the Green Party of Colorado. A vote of at least 60% quorum requires at least one response from five ( 5 ) chapters.

Active Chapters  
Adams/Jefferson  
Arapahoe County  
Denver  
Douglas  
Greater Boulder  
Pikes Peak  
San Miguel  
Southwest

The floor is now open for one week of Agreement Seeking (August 31st, 2015).

Thank You,  
Brittany Hoover, Council Facillitator

### **1. Basic Info:**

Date proposed: August 23, 2015  
Name of the sponsor(s): Andrea Merida, Bill Bartlett

### **2. Title: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

### **3. Text of the actual Proposal:**

Article III, section 1 of the bylaws shall be amended to read:

A Green Local must agree to:

- \* Accept the Ten Key Values and to manage the chapter in accordance with those values.
- \* Abide by the bylaws of the Green Party of Colorado.
- \* Openly support only the national candidates selected by Green convention, state level candidates nominated at a Green Party of Colorado nominating convention, and local

candidates selected with the criteria specified in sections 4.5.4 and 4.5.5 of these bylaws.

- \* Make a good faith effort, where reasonable, to increase the number of Green voter registrations within the boundaries of their chapter.

- \* Make a good faith effort to run state and local candidates.

- \* Make a good faith effort to increase the number of qualified voting members within their chapter.

- \* Make a good faith effort to fundraise for the operation of their chapter and to assist in the operation of the Green Party of Colorado.

- \* Demonstrate evidence of commitment to, and good faith efforts to achieve, gender balance in party leadership and representation.

- \* Demonstrate evidence of good faith efforts to empower individuals and groups from oppressed communities, through, for example, leadership responsibilities, identity caucuses and alliances with community-based organizations, and endorsements of issues and policies.

Chapter officers and council representatives must not have been registered as a member of a political party other than the Green Party of Colorado for at least thirty days before nomination and must maintain registration as a Green Party of Colorado voter throughout the duration of the officer's/representative's term.

A Green local must present its proposed bylaws for approval, and be approved by 60% of the voting Greens at a state party meeting, or by the state council.

**4. Background:** At present, our bylaws language places more party affiliation requirements on candidates seeking nomination than on the chapter itself. This language is intended to align the two issues.

**5. Justification/Goals:** To provide some guidelines and standards for Green Locals and Officers.

**6. Pros and Cons:** These changes give some guidance to present and future Green Locals about how they are expected to operate, benchmarks for success, and standards for maintaining their affiliation with the Green Party of Colorado. There are drawbacks to some of this language; some people may be less interested in being an Officer knowing they cannot change their affiliation to participate in other party's electoral processes.

**7. Alternatives to the proposal:** Take no action, remove the Officer party registration constraints.

**8. References:** See the GPCO Bylaws.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **August 23, 2015, 10:33:52 PM**

Agree.

Thank you, Brittney!

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Jason Justice** on **August 23, 2015, 10:46:30 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Laura C.** on **August 24, 2015, 04:54:03 AM**



Agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Susan Hall** on **August 24, 2015, 12:07:09 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Bob Kinsey** on **August 24, 2015, 09:00:27 PM**

agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Larry Dunn** on **August 25, 2015, 02:46:24 PM**

Agree!

Larry Dunn  
GP-AJ Co-Chair

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Chris Allen** on **August 25, 2015, 03:32:12 PM**

Agree!!!

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **August 25, 2015, 05:47:03 PM**

Do not agree as worded. Too much micro-managing. All the good faith efforts require time that some chapter volunteers/officers do not have. Also, the statement to support "only..." could be interpreted to apply to issues as well. It also does not address supporting other party candidates when there is no Green Party candidate for a particular office.

I think it needs work before voting. As worded I would vote no.

Michael Haughey  
AJ Greens

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **August 26, 2015, 08:16:40 AM**

Michael,

Can you clarify your vote? As stated in the proposal: agree, stand aside, and block are acceptable forms of voting. A blocking vote from you will halt agreement seeking and move the proposal to a vote instead. A stand aside vote will keep the proposal here until enough "agree" votes have been reached.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Bill Bartlett** on **August 26, 2015, 09:50:42 PM**

Agree.

I was a little hesitant about making these changes, but we need some ways for the state to at least give guidance to new (and existing) local chapters about how they operate and how they might be expected to perform.

The reason we used the phrase "good faith effort" is to keep it open to interpretation. We could play with the language but the intent is that we would like local chapters to be doing their best at things like increasing voter registration, doing fundraisers, supporting candidates, maintaining balance in leadership roles, etc..

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Scott Lupo** on **August 27, 2015, 01:30:13 PM**

I agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **August 28, 2015, 10:24:50 AM**

I am classifying Michaels vote as a stand aside until I hear otherwise from him. With that, the proposal has passed withOut consensus but within parameters.

Final Tally:

9 Agree  
1 Stand Aside  
0 Block

6/8 Chapters Voting.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **August 28, 2015, 10:36:13 AM**

I am persuaded by Michael Haughey's position:

Quote

Posted by: Michael Haughey « on: August 25, 2015, 05:47:03 PM »  
Do not agree as worded. Too much micro-managing. . . . It also does not address supporting other party candidates when there is no Green Party candidate for a particular office.  
I think it needs work before voting. As worded I would vote no.

My position is BLOCK.

At this point only three chapters are in agreement with the proposal (Denver, Douglas, and Pikes Peak). I think the general membership should be allowed to vote on this proposal at the annual meeting. Failing that, I call on the sponsors of this proposal to withdraw it.

Harry Hempy, Greater Boulder Greens

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **August 28, 2015, 10:39:33 AM**

Denver, Douglas, Pikes Peak, A/J, Boulder and Arapahoe.

(sorry, Poudre isn't active)

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **August 28, 2015, 02:04:08 PM**

Andrea,

There is not full support from Adams/Jefferson or Greater Boulder.

Who from Arapahoe agrees?

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **August 28, 2015, 02:05:06 PM**

Harry, it's never been my understanding that a chapter needs to be unanimous.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Sean Friend** on **August 28, 2015, 02:29:18 PM**

I'm late to the party, my apologies.

Agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **August 28, 2015, 02:36:46 PM**

GPCO Procedures say

Quote

3.5.4 Proposals for ACTION will be called by the current convener/facilitator, who will announce a week period of Consensus discussion of a proposal. . . . If, at the end of the first week, we have reached quorum and have had full support and no proposed amendments or blocking concerns, the proposal will be accepted by consensus. . . .

Full support means unanimous to me. I'll respect the facilitator's interpretation, of course.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **August 28, 2015, 02:38:22 PM**

I can totally understand where you're coming from. For me, we know that an individual can block, and they don't have to wait for a chapter to block. It should follow that individuals then vote on their own.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **August 28, 2015, 03:01:15 PM**

With Harry's block, I'll be moving this into the voting thread. Check back in about five minutes.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **August 28, 2015, 03:04:51 PM**

<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=258.0>

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **August 28, 2015, 03:08:17 PM**

I don't know what it means for 'a chapter to block', but more to the point:

I am maintaining my BLOCK position on proposal 008 because I want Colorado Greens to discuss it tomorrow without a position from Council. Council exists to maintain communications with chapters and take action between annual meetings. Council is not charged with steering policy. That role belongs to the members of the Green Party at its annual meeting.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Bill Bartlett** on **August 28, 2015, 03:09:30 PM**

"Council is not charged with steering policy. That role belongs to the members of the Green Party at its annual meeting."

Could you explain this statement Harry?

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **August 28, 2015, 04:30:07 PM**

Council's role is defined in these sections of GPCO bylaws:

Quote

4.2.2. The Council will meet and make decisions between state meetings by means determined by council.

4.2.3. The Council sets the agenda for the state meetings, decides on issues needing expedient attention between state meetings, handles administrative tasks, and acts as representative to the press on state issues, as well as representing the Green Party of Colorado to groups interested in establishing locals where none exist. The Council can make appropriations from the GPCO bank account of \$200 per item or less by a 60% vote of the Council, in consultation with the Treasurer to insure availability of funds. Expenditures above \$200 per item require consensus of the Council or a 60% vote at a state meeting.

There is nothing about "steering". Grassroots party members steer the Council; not the other way around.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Bill Bartlett** on **August 28, 2015, 04:32:17 PM**

That is an interesting interpretation, if somewhat abstract.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **August 28, 2015, 04:41:29 PM**

My vote was not a stand aside. I would have said that if that is what I intended. I was advising that the proposal needs revision.

The "best efforts" reasoning goes beyond the "good faith efforts" and is un-definable. For volunteers, best efforts are unreasonable. We should be grateful for any efforts.

Encourage, not require and mandate.

Michael Haughey  
AJ Greens

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **August 28, 2015, 04:42:39 PM**

I just responded to you on the vote thread. Long story short, I agree that this is about encouraging, and the chapter needs to set its own manageable goals.

The intent is to keep moving forward in party building.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **August 28, 2015, 04:45:46 PM**

Michael it's clearly stated in the original post to designate your vote as agree stad aside or block. Your vote of a "no" is not an appropriate response. Please respond appropriately in the future to avoid confusion and avoid unnecessary delays such as with this thread.  
Thanks.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Chris Allen** on **August 28, 2015, 11:38:57 PM**

Douglas already agreed on the 25th of August. :)

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## GPCO Forum

**Council => Proposal Voting => Topic started by: Brittany Hoover on August 28, 2015, 03:04:06 PM**

Title: **Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **August 28, 2015, 03:04:06 PM**

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Designate your vote by using the following terms: AGREE, DISAGREE, or STAND ASIDE. Any blocks will require a vote of the council

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Denver  
Douglas  
Greater Boulder  
Pikes Peak  
San Miguel  
Southwest

Thank You,  
Brittany Hoover, Council Facillitator

### **1. Basic Info:**

Date proposed: August 23, 2015  
Name of the sponsor(s): Andrea Merida, Bill Bartlett

### **2. Title: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**

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**7. Alternatives to the proposal:** Take no action, remove the Officer party registration constraints.

**8. References:** See the GPCO Bylaws.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **August 28, 2015, 03:09:06 PM**

I vote yes.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Sean Friend** on **August 28, 2015, 03:15:33 PM**

AGREE

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Bill Bartlett** on **August 28, 2015, 03:21:35 PM**

AGREE

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **August 28, 2015, 03:25:09 PM**

Abstain.

There is no reason for Council to vote on this. The general membership will vote on it tomorrow.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Joseph Scardetta** on **August 28, 2015, 03:30:43 PM**

AGREE. Yes vote.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Larry Dunn** on **August 28, 2015, 04:10:33 PM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **August 28, 2015, 04:35:04 PM**

Disagree

The "good faith effort" and "demonstrate" items are vague and could require leadership time commitments that are excessive. Who determines what qualifies, and per what criteria?

Michael Haughey  
AJ Greens

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **August 28, 2015, 04:40:44 PM**

In short, Michael, the chapter makes that determination. The idea here is to support a chapter's work of partybuilding, and it encourages the chapter to adopt some sort of plan.

We're all volunteer, and the state party needs to support a chapter's efforts. It creates dialog between chapter and state party so that the state party can get creative about mobilizing forces.

You have already shown yourself to be engaged in partybuilding, even just by helping out at the People's Fair. I think you could agree that a plan and goals are a good thing.

Thanks for hearing me out.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Jason Justice** on **August 28, 2015, 05:59:50 PM**

STRONGLY AGREE. People getting killed in the streets. They need a third party to be built. Not Democrats who sell out the working class at the drop of the hat.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**



Post by: **Laura C.** on **August 28, 2015, 08:30:01 PM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Bob Kinsey** on **August 28, 2015, 08:47:18 PM**

agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Susan Hall** on **August 28, 2015, 10:22:32 PM**

Agree

I do think the language before the bullet points should specify persons in leadership positions will do their best to follow the listed criteria of what a Green Party leader will do and encourage Green members to do the same. I think I do not believe we should be making all Green Party members follow the listed criteria, but we can expect those who are Green Party officers, those who are voting on Green party considerations to follow the criteria.

I also agree with Harry that proposals should have more of the local chapters involved in discussions about what is happening in the state business.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Chris Allen** on **August 28, 2015, 11:28:27 PM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Michelle Feurer** on **August 29, 2015, 06:52:35 AM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 008-15: Amendment to the Bylaws: Chapter Accreditation**  
Post by: **Brittany Hoover** on **August 31, 2015, 09:23:14 AM**

Proposal has passed, with the necessary 6 chapters voting to approve the proposal.

Final Tally:

11 Agree

1 Block

1 Stand Aside

Chapter voting: 6/8.

## Evidence Group Appendix K: GPCO Procedures & Guidelines

# ***THE GREEN PARTY OF COLORADO - Procedures and Guidelines***

Revised August 22, 2004

## **I. Purpose**

1.1. The purpose of these procedures and guidelines is to provide for consistency and efficiency in the functioning of GPCO within the bylaws. This document supplements the bylaws and adds details, but cannot be in conflict with the bylaws. These guidelines are not binding on local chapters of the GPCO, but could be used as a starting point for a local's process and procedures.

## **II Modifications**

2.1. These procedures can be modified at any GPCO state meeting by a 60% vote.

2.2. The GPCO Council is authorized to modify this document at any time, subject to review at the next GPCO state meeting. A 60% vote is required to overturn a Council modification.

## **III. Categories Covered by this document**

### **3.1. Diversity**

3.1.1. The GPCO will strive for gender and geographic balance in all representation, recruitment and functional offices of the GPCO. This means co-chairs instead of one chairperson, co-conveners, cofacilitators (Note: only one person facilitates at a time, the other supports them, then they exchange roles at some point), etc. In cases where there is only one person needed for a function, the function should be rotated periodically between genders and among geographic regions. Where there are no people of one gender or geographic area available, additional efforts should be made to recruit and train people of the other gender and in other geographic areas.

3.1.2. The GPCO will strive to obtain a mix of people in various identity groups in all representation, recruitment and functional offices of the GPCO.

3.1.3. Where one person has held an office in the GPCO for longer than 2 years, this office should be reviewed at an annual meeting to see if there are any other qualified people to rotate into that office.

### **3.2. Meeting Process**

3.2.1. Meetings will generally use the "Agreement Seeking" process, where proposals are presented and discussed and consensus is sought. Where consensus cannot be reached, a proposal can be tabled for another time or a vote can be taken, where a 60% vote is then required for passage. See Appendix A. for more details on this process.

3.2.2. Co-facilitators are appointed in advance of the next meeting, so that they can work with the Council and other interested parties to develop the agenda and assist with planning the

meeting. Where only one facilitator is needed or available, every attempt will be made to use a facilitator of the other gender at the next meeting.

3.2.3. Each meeting will have co-conveners. Their main responsibility will be to function as the focal point for working with the Council in planning the meeting, obtaining a meeting site, coordinating with the Council and the facilitators. Conveners should, if at all possible, rotate between meetings from one gender to the other.

3.2.4. A minimum quorum of representatives from 60% of all locals, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of Colorado) equal to twice the number of local chapters represented, must be present at any meeting for decisions to be made. Any meeting with less than that number will be advisory to the Council, who can accept recommendations from that advisory meeting and enact or not enact advisory proposals in the interim until the next state meeting, using appropriate Council procedures.

3.2.5. Proposals brought to the agenda of a state meeting must be made by local chapters or a minimum of 5 individuals at large, by the Council, or by any Officer of the GPCO. A written statement of the proposal must be sent to the Council by a representative of the sponsoring local, or by a member at large accompanied by evidence of at least 4 other member's endorsements. The statement and evidence may be done by email or on paper.

### 3.3. Naming of Locals

3.3.1. Locals are free to name themselves as they choose. It is suggested that the name include the words "Green Party" and the political area covered by that local, for example, "Green Party of Boulder County." It should also be made clear in literature, etc. that the local is affiliated with the Green Party of Colorado.

### 3.4. Endorsements and Sign-ons

3.4.1. Between state meetings, any proposal for an endorsement or sign-on can be made to the Council. Council representatives will distribute this proposal to their respective local and get local direction on the proposal within one month from the proposal's introduction.

3.4.2. The Council will then discuss and vote for the endorsement or sign-on, with a 60% vote required to pass. The Council can also choose to delay a vote until the next state meeting.

3.4.3. Any endorsement or sign-on requiring the commitment of GPCO resources (money, people, time, etc.) must clearly state the requirements and where the resource will come from.

### 3.5. Council Process

3.5.1. The Co-chairs will alternate as conveners/facilitators of the Council or a convener/facilitator will be elected by the council.

3.5.2. The Council will operate via email on a listserve or by other electronic means as needed between state meetings, and plan to meet shortly before and after state meetings.

3.5.3. The Council will discuss via email issues raised among its representatives or by any Green Party member who participates. Any councilmember or Committee may submit a proposal to the convener or facilitator for discussion. Appointed state representatives of local chapters will have the ability to make proposals to the State Council directly under the following conditions:

1. That the proposal be made by the representative and two more members of the local chapter, one of those members being an elected or appointed officer of that local chapter.
2. That the proposal be published on the local chapter's listserve as soon as possible.
3. That the state representative making the proposal need not have written confirmation but simply email confirmation from the other two members making the proposal, and that copies of these emails be sent along to the State Council with the proposal.

3.5.4 Proposals for ACTION will be called by the current convener/facilitator, who will announce a week period of Consensus discussion of a proposal. During that week, members may discuss the proposal, express support for the proposal by saying "I agree with this proposal," or may express concerns or blocking concerns by stating their concern, or may offer amendments.

Amendments can be proposed by any Council member and either accepted by the proponent if friendly, or voted on separately by the Council, if unfriendly. If, at the end of the first week, we have reached quorum and have had full support and no proposed amendments or blocking concerns, the proposal will be accepted by consensus and the facilitator will report the results.

If there is no quorum at the end of the first week, or if there are amendments proposed that are not acceptable to the originator of the proposal or any blocking concerns, then the facilitator will initiate a voting process for that proposal by posting an email message to the Council list serve with the word "Vote" in the subject line of the message. The text of the message will include a brief statement of the proposal and will solicit votes from Council reps either Yes or No or Abstain. Any backup material from the proponent, within reasonable limits, will be included in the request for a vote. Council reps will have a week to vote on the proposal.

The convener/facilitator will send a Final Update of the vote to the list serve once a quorum is reached on the proposal in question.

It is the responsibility of Council reps to make issues known to the respective members of their local chapters and solicit input on how to vote on specific proposals, to the extent that it is possible.

Simultaneous votes will be discouraged, although they may occur at the discretion of the convener/facilitator.

Suspension of these procedures may occur with issues of urgency, again at the discretion of the convener/facilitator.

3.5.5. If any representative believes the vote does not represent what they sent in, the convener will send their vote message back to them for verification. Errors and corrections will be reported to the convener and the results modified as needed up to one week past the end of the voting.

3.5.6. A minimum quorum of at least one representative from 75% of the locals in the state must participate in any Council action for it to be valid.

3.5.7. Council proposals must be approved by 60% of representatives voting to be adopted. For ballot issues we are endorsing or opposing or stances we are taking on public issues a 75% vote is required.

### 3.6. Representation of GPCO at Other Organization's Meetings

3.6.1. Members of the GPCO may informally represent the GPCO at other organizations' meetings for the purposes of gathering information and exploring the possibilities for cooperation, without obtaining prior approval by the GPCO.

3.6.2. No one can represent the GPCO at other organizations' meetings for the purpose of making decisions that result in the commitment of GPCO resources or imply GPCO endorsement without prior approval of the GPCO Council or a state meeting of the GPCO.

3.7. The GPCO co-chairs, after conferring together, can make a "good until challenged appointment" of a volunteer for a vacancy to any of the following positions: coalition representative; meeting facilitator or council facilitator; meeting agenda collector; press relations director; representative to a GPUS committee, other than the GPUS-CC; web master; archivist; state phone line minder, or any other nondecision-making position, with the following stipulations:

1. Notice will be given to the online GPCO Council within five days of the appointment, with a resume of the volunteer's qualifications to fill that position;
2. The appointed representative will provide to the GPCO Council reports of work in their position at least every two months or at intervals specified in a description of their position;
3. The appointed representative will seek input from the GPCO Council related to their position at least every two months or at intervals specified in a description of their position;
4. The appointed representative will provide to the GPCO co-chair at least two weeks notice of their intent to resign their position.
5. If any GPCO Council representative challenges an appointment, the appointment will be withdrawn and submitted to the council for a yes or no vote.

6. An appointee to any of these positions shall have a sunset review of their appointment by the GPCO Council at every odd-year state meeting.

7. A GPCO co-chair can terminate an appointment at any time. Any such termination can be reconsidered by the Council.

3.7.1. The Archivist shall be responsible for maintaining paper copies of the archived historical records of the Green Party of Colorado in coordination with the Secretary.

3.7.1.1. Those records include: current GPCO Bylaws, Procedures & Guidelines, and Platform; minutes of all state meetings and nominating conventions; records of proposals that have been approved by the Council; copies of all reports made to the GPCO; copies of letters sent on behalf of the GPCO; copies of all reports filed with the Secretary of State and other government agencies; and any other documents designated by the Green Party of Colorado.

3.7.1.2. The Archivist shall be responsible for obtaining these documents, which can be compiled from emailed reports filed with the GPCO Council. These archives shall be passed from one Archivist to the next.

3.7.1.3. The Archivist shall make an annual report of their activities to the GPCO Council.

3.8. Determining the GPCO Presidential slate and Apportioning Delegates - The procedure to select a Presidential slate for the GPUS Nominating Convention will be determined by executing in order the steps contained in this section. 3.8.1. Procedure for selecting a Presidential slate.

3.8.1.1. At the State Meeting, nominations for Presidential candidates will be taken from the floor. Only delegates selected by their Locals may place a name in nomination. A nomination does not require a second. Choices like "no candidate", "uncommitted", etc. may also be nominated.

3.8.1.2. All nominations will be displayed.

3.8.1.3. When all nominations are in, the first round of voting will occur.

3.8.1.4. A round of voting is completed by executing the steps of 3.8.1.4 in order.

3.8.1.4.1. The facilitator will take a "sense of the convention" (a non-debatable, straw vote) that will determine if speeches will be allowed at this point. If allowed, each nominator will be permitted to speak on behalf of the nomination, and this will be followed by a period of discussion open only to delegates.

3.8.1.4.2. The facilitator will call for the vote. Delegates will publicly declare their choice.

3.8.1.4.3. The results of the ballot will be visibly posted.

3.8.1.4.4. Any candidate or choice getting less than the "threshold percentage" in votes is eliminated. The threshold is given by the formula "threshold percentage" =  $(1 / \text{number of delegates allocated by the GPUS to the GPCO}) * 100$ .

3.8.1.4.5. If no candidate or choice gets 60% of the votes cast, and two or less votes have been taken, another round of voting is required.

3.8.1.5. If no candidate or choice gets 60% of the votes cast and no candidate or choice is eliminated in the third and latter rounds of voting, the convention must vote (a non-debatable, procedural vote) after each round to have an additional round of voting.

3.8.1.6. Any subsequent rounds of voting will use the steps in 3.8.1.4.

3.8.1.7. When closure of voting occurs, the final vote results will become the GPCO Presidential slate.

3.8.2. Procedure for apportioning the Presidential slate delegates.

3.8.2.1. The final vote results will be converted to percentages of total votes cast and each of the surviving choices and candidates will have the appropriate percentage assigned to them.

3.8.2.2. The number of delegates assigned to a choice or candidate is given by the formula  $ND = CAP * DC$ , where: ND is the "Number of Delegates assigned to a choice or candidate" CAP is the "Candidate's assigned percentage", which is derived in 3.8.2.1 DC is the "Number of delegates and proxy votes in attendance at the nominating convention vote"

3.8.2.3. The "ND" will be rounded with any fraction less than .50 reduced to .0, and any fraction equal or greater than .50 increased to 1.0.

3.8.2.4. For all candidates and choices, the number of assigned delegates ("ND") will be totaled.

3.8.2.5. Any unaccounted for delegate will be assigned "uncommitted".

3.8.2.6. If the total number of assigned delegates exceeds the number allocated by the GPUS, each candidates' and choices' "ND" will be truncated with any fraction reduced to .0.

3.8.3. Delegation instructions at the GPUS Nominating Convention

3.8.3.1. When the delegates are chosen, their votes on the floor of the GPUS Nominating Convention will be assigned and bound through the first ballot for the Presidential Candidate of the GPUS with the exception of the uncommitted delegates. Only if a candidate withdraws his or her name from nomination will a delegate be released from binding early.

3.8.3.2. The number of delegates on the floor of the convention should be apportioned per 3.8.2.



3.8.3.3. A delegation coordinator will be chosen by the delegates, and will be responsible for these provisions.

3.8.3.4 On all subsequent ballots after the first, the delegates are released from any binding direction for voting.

3.8.4. The GPCO will support the nominated GPUS Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates. These candidates are placed on the General Election ballot by the GPUS.

3.8.5. The GPCO will select at the State Meeting the required number of Presidential electors for the Electoral College.

## **Appendix A. The Agreement-seeking Process**

### **Roles:**

#### **\* Facilitator, Co-facilitator**

- People who see to it that the meeting goes well.
- Involved with, but do not control, planning, agenda.
- Main job is the actual running of the meeting.
- Serve at the will of the group, can be removed or replaced by 3/4 vote of the group.
- Generally do not present or argue for proposals, step aside temporarily if necessary to act as a participant.
- Co-facilitator supports current facilitator as needed.
- Swaps roles at appropriate times.

#### **\* Minutetaker**

- Keeps a record of all decisions made during the meeting.
- Prepares and distributes to meeting participants soon after the meeting.
- May keep track of other information about the meeting as desired.
- Keeps track of items tabled or to be considered later.

#### **\* Timekeeper**

- Keeps meeting on time

- Assists in gathering participants after breaks, keeps track of time expired on an agenda item, warns participant when time is almost up, informs facilitator when time expired.
- May be done by separate person or co-facilitator.
- Best if not an active participant in the meeting.

\* Agenda Planner

- Keeps track of agenda items for next meeting or future meetings.
- Acts as focal point for agenda item gathering for next meeting.
- Works with Council and Facilitators in preparing agenda for a meeting.

## **Process:**

Process Summary: Introduce a proposal, discuss and amend it, decide to do it or not by testing consensus, voting if necessary.

1. A proposal is presented, sponsored by one or more members. The initial proposal can be sketchy, to see if the group is interested. If group does not support the proposal, it goes no further. If it reaches the discussion stage, the proposal should be complete, with background, details of implementation, resources needed, schedule for implementation, etc. For simple proposals, of course not all of this is needed and it may be possible to do all three stages at one meeting.

1.1. For major proposals, the proposal goes through 3 stages. The first stage is to briefly introduce the proposal and see if there is support to continue, if not, it is dropped or the author(s) go back and redo to meet major objections. Only a few minutes is used at this stage to hear the proposal, get clarifying questions and test for support. At the next stage, people should be given a written version of the proposal and study it and come prepared to the next meeting to discuss it.

The second stage is to discuss the proposal in depth, and, if necessary, consider amendments to improve the proposal. "Friendly" amendments can be accepted by the author with no other action needed. "Unfriendly" amendments require a vote of the members to make the change. This process may take some time and multiple meetings for big proposals. When the discussion and amendments are finished, the facilitator then has the group make a decision. For important proposals, it may be best to have the decision made at the next meeting to make sure everyone has time to consider the discussion and changes fully.

2. The decision. When the members are ready, or when out of time, the facilitator restates the proposal as amended, and then asks if there are any BLOCKING concerns. Optionally, the facilitator can ask for all those in favor to show their hands, and then ask for blocks.

2.1. If there are (only voting members or delegates can block or stand-aside), people state their concerns, and then look for amendments or clarifications that would remove the block.

2.2. If there are then no blocks, ask for STAND-ASIDES, and record the names of those who wish to stand-aside. This means that the person doesn't object to other people carrying out the proposal, but won't take part in it. For instance, if it has to do with the planning of a meal with meat, and the person is strict vegetarian. If there are only a few stand-asides or none, the facilitator states that we have consensus, the proposal is agreed upon and we move on. If desired the facilitator can ask agree we have consensus to stand or raise a hand or indicate it in some other way to verify that consensus has been reached. This should not be necessary in a group that is experienced in the agreement-seeking process.

2.3. If blocks remain or there are too many stand-asides (more than one or two or 10% of a large group), and the item cannot be sent to committee for further work and later consideration or tabled, we then move to a vote on the issue.

2.4. At the beginning of a meeting, we need to know who the voting members are and what the total number is in order to determine the percentage of votes needed to pass. In larger groups its good to have a voting card to hold up when votes are taken.

2.5. The facilitator asks for those in favor of the proposal to hold up their hands (or cards) and has 2 other non-voting people (when possible) count the votes.

2.6. Same for those opposed

2.7. Same for those that wish to abstain.

2.8. The votes are recorded, and if the vote is at the right threshold (abstentions are not counted), the proposal is passed. For most items, the threshold is about 60%, but for some items it could be 75%.

2.9. The facilitator then announces the vote and whether the proposal passed or failed.

3.0. For some items, the next step is to determine how and when the proposal will be acted on. Who will do what, and how resources will be obtained.

## Evidence Group Appendix L: Denver Bylaws

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GPCO Forum » Council » Documents and Files » New Bylaws Ratified for the Denver Green Party

Topic: New Bylaws Ratified for the Denver Green Party (Read 12 times)

Pages: [1] NOTIFY MARK UNREAD SEND THIS TOPIC PRINT

on: November 20, 2016, 08:52:58 PM

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar**  
Administrator  
Posts: 158  
Local: Denver Greens  
State Officer: State  
Co-chair

We ratified new bylaws on November 20, 2016, which first changes our name officially to Denver Green Party, and which also drastically recalibrate our local party from a loose environmentally-focused group to a specifically anti-capitalist, anti-oppression electoral tactic of the grassroots agenda of the working class.

A copy is posted below:

**Bylaws**

**I. Name**

1.1 The name of this local chapter of the Green Party of Colorado is The Denver Green Party.

**II. Purpose and Values**

2.1 The purpose of this organization is to work towards a Green society as represented by the Ten Key Values of the Green Party of the United States. These values are as follows:

1. Ecological Wisdom
2. Grassroots Democracy
3. Community Based Economics and Economic Justice
4. Social Justice and Equal Opportunity
5. Nonviolence
6. Decentralization
7. Respect for Diversity
8. Feminism and Gender Equality
9. Personal and Global Responsibility
10. Future Focus and Sustainability

## GPCO Forum

**Council => Documents and Files => Topic started by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on November 20, 2016, 08:52:58 PM**

Title: **New Bylaws Ratified for the Denver Green Party**

Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **November 20, 2016, 08:52:58 PM**

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7. Respect for Diversity
8. Feminism and Gender Equality
9. Personal and Global Responsibility
10. Future Focus and Sustainability

2.2 The Denver Green Party's expression of the 7th and 8th Key Values, as well as of the Third Pillar of the Green Party (Social Justice) causes it to declare that we are an anti-oppression party, actively dedicated to the work of ending capitalism and dismantling white supremacy and heteropatriarchy. As such, expressions of sexism, racism, classism, ableism, homophobia, transphobia, and other oppressive behaviors are not in keeping with the values of this party.

2.2.1 Further, the Denver Green Party explicitly rejects the false ideas of reverse racism, misandry, etc., because we understand the role of white supremacy, heteropatriarchy, etc. in the oppression of our comrades of all colors, genders, and sexual orientations. While prejudice may exist against white people, against men, against cisgender people, against straight people (or any other privileged group), this prejudice is not oppression because there are no institutional power structures designed to disenfranchise these privileged groups.

2.3 The Denver Green Party may use various methods to affect social change, including but not restricted to: campaigning for electoral offices, petitioning for or supporting ballot

initiatives, generating public input, community organizing, demonstrations, cross-coalition collaborations, and educational campaigns and outreach. We recognize that in legitimate, legal instances of direct action, violence is typically initiated by the state, and in keeping with the 5th Key Value (Non-violence), self-defense may be necessary to avert grave injuries or fatalities.

2.3.1 In order to properly implement the methods described in 2.3, officers should also adhere to these values described in sections 2.2 and 2.2.1, and they should do everything within their capacity to help develop the consciousness of their membership, so as to create a welcoming, safe space in which to build collective power, with women, people of color, people with disabilities and the entire spectrum of the LGBTQIA+ community and the homeless.

2.3.2 The leadership of the Denver Green Party is also charged with working toward creating opportunities for solidarity with the white working class and all economically-oppressed communities so that mutual understanding and shared collective power can be built.

2.4 The Denver Green Party may develop a platform regarding issues of local, regional, national, or international concerns, as deemed appropriate by the membership. The Denver Green Party may also adopt the platform of the state or national party.

2.5 The Denver Green Party shall only endorse and promote those candidates who are registered Green in the state of Colorado, for non-partisan or partisan state, local and federal offices or those candidates for President of the United States nominated at the Green Party of the United States' presidential nominating convention.

### **III. Membership**

3.1 To be a member of the Denver Green Party, one must be a registered voter of the Green Party of Colorado and reside in Denver County. Members of the Denver Green Party must also agree:

- to support the Ten Key Values and this party's interpretation thereof;
- must abide by the bylaws of the Denver Green Party and the Green Party of Colorado;
- agree to support/promote only the candidates nominated by this local, the Green Party of Colorado and the Green Party of the United States; and
- should generally agree with the local party platform and the state and national party platforms.

Members of the Denver Green Party must comport themselves in a way that represents the organization positively. Members meeting these criteria are considered members in good standing.

3.2 Membership shall be open to anyone regardless of race, gender expression, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, appearance, or physical ability.

3.3 Voting Members of the Denver Green Party are members of the Denver Green Party that have the ability to vote on this local's officers, its representatives to Green Party of Colorado Council, nominations for Green Party candidates running for an office relevant to Denver or Congressional District 1, official positions of the Denver Green Party, and a platform or platform items of the Denver Green Party.

3.4 To be eligible to be a Voting Member of the Denver Green Green Party, one must have been a member in good standing according to section 3.1 for at least 30 successive days and pay monthly dues of at least \$5 per month to the Denver Green Party. The dues requirement may be waived partially or entirely to those that are unable to pay, on a

case-by-case basis and communicated to an officer of the Denver Green Party.

3.4.1 Registered Greens who are not residents of Denver county may apply for membership if there is no Green Party of Colorado-recognized local in the county of their residence. They will be bound by all the requirements for membership and comportment, as well as granted all rights afforded voting members that are residents of Denver county. Such individuals may make their wishes known to an officer of the Denver Green Party, and their membership will be presented to the local for consensus/vote at the next available meeting.

3.5 Voting Members are considered inactive and will not be considered for the purposes of quorum if they have missed two (2) consecutive official votes. These members will be restored to active status after an affirmative vote by the voting members. Members that have not resided in Denver County area for a duration greater than 6 consecutive weeks will be considered inactive and not eligible to vote until their residency in Denver County has been restored. Exceptions can be made for those voting members who are facing a housing crisis as a result of the local economy.

3.6 The membership of an individual in the Denver Green Party may be revoked for failing to abide by the Ten Key Values as interpreted by this party, for disrupting the work of the Denver Green Party, or for acting in a way that represents the organization in an unfavorable manner. A vote of the Voting Members at a local meeting is required to revoke membership in the Denver Green Party. Any individual must be informed of the potential revocation of membership at least two weeks prior to the vote and have a chance to speak in their defense or prepare a written statement to be read at the meeting where the vote is held. The revoked membership of an individual in the Denver Green Green Party can be appealed and reversed by the Voting Members by vote at a local meeting.

3.7 Persons who do not meet the membership requirements of the Denver Green Party as stated in 3.1, 3.3, 3.4, and 3.5 may attend and participate in meetings, but they shall not have the ability to vote, block proposals, serve as officers or candidates of the Denver Green Green Party, serve as State Council representatives, national representatives, or portray themselves as representing the Denver Green Party.

#### **IV. Structure**

4.1 Meetings shall be called by the Co-chairs by notification of members to an extent as reasonably possible, at least one week if possible before the proposed meeting.

4.2 Decisions will be by consensus if possible or if not then by a simple majority, except as noted elsewhere. All officers as well as active Voting Members shall have the right to vote.

4.3 Decisions concerning policy, objectives, or creation or deletion of an office requires a consensus or a vote of a quorum of at least 75% of the Voting Members, or a vote by Voting Members at a local meeting.

4.4 Decisions may be made by email, using an email service that records whether members have opened the email. For votes made by consensus, a "no response" will be interpreted as consensus after opening the email has been recorded.

#### **V. Officers**

5.1 Officers shall include two Co-chairs, Secretary and Treasurer. These four will be chosen in odd number years at a designated meeting in either March or April.

5.1.1 Representatives to State and National Conventions will be chosen at a local meeting. In the event of a vacancy of an officer position, a Co-chair may fulfill the duties of the



vacant position or delegate another officer to do so until a new officer is elected.

5.1.2 It is the goal of the Denver Green Party to achieve gender diversity in the election of officers; therefore, individuals of any self-identified gender expression are encouraged to serve.

5.2 Members voting for officers must meet the requirements stated in sections 3.1, 3.3, and 3.4.

5.3 If a Denver Green Party officer's position is vacated in between official meetings, the other officers may make a temporary appointment to be affirmed by a vote of the Voting Members of the Denver Green Party.

5.4 Officers shall be elected by the Voting Members of the Denver Green Party. Voting Members of the Denver Green Party that are in good standing shall be eligible to run for an office of the Denver Green Party. The candidate with the greatest number of votes shall be elected to the office. Ranked-choice voting may be used to conduct these elections.

5.5 If any officer or State Council representative of the Denver Green Party is found to be in contempt of the goals or bylaws of the Denver Green Party or the Green Party of Colorado, recall proceedings may be initiated by any three Voting Members. A quorum of 75% of the Voting Members, or a two thirds vote of the Voting Members present at a local meeting where notice of the agenda for the meeting as an officer recall meeting has been announced for at least 14 days is required to achieve the recall of an officer.

5.6 Representatives of the Denver Green Party on the Green Party of Colorado State Council shall be chosen by a vote of the Voting Members by means of approval voting.

## **VI. Officer Duties**

6.1 Co-chairs will set the initial agenda for meetings seeking input from members prior to the meeting, take action on expedient matters, and act as representatives to the press on local issues or delegate such duties. Co-chairs may form committees to handle specific tasks (such as a website committee.) and will be considered the spokespersons for the Denver Green Party.

6.2 The Treasurer shall have charge of the books of the Denver Green Party and account monthly for all moneys collected and disbursed, as well as file required financial reports at local, State and Federal level. Disbursement of funds should be approved at a regular meeting or, if time sensitive, by the officers' unanimous consent.

6.3 The Secretary is to maintain a list of the members in good standing, Voting Members, officers, and representatives to the Green Party of Colorado Council. In addition, the Secretary is responsible for taking and archiving meeting minutes. The Secretary will maintain a copy of the bylaws with any current amendments, forwarding the same to the Green Party of Colorado and any governmental unit requiring a copy, and maintain a list of those organizations requiring a copy. The Secretary will attempt to get minutes and/or bylaws to any member in good standing who requests them.

## **VII. Candidates**

7.1 Any regular meeting may constitute itself as a vetting agent for the Denver Green Party, or the Voting Members may approve a vetting committee created by the Co-Chairs consisting of Denver Green Party members in good standing.

7.2 Voting Members will be responsible for nominating Green Party of Colorado candidates to run for local political office in partisan elections based on the principle of one person one

vote. An officer of the Denver Green Party shall forward those nominations for ratification to the state nominating convention.

7.3 Members voting for the nomination of a candidate must have been registered in the Green Party of Colorado for at least 30 days prior to voting and must meet the requirements stated in sections 3.1, 3.3, and 3.4.

7.4 Candidates nominated by the Denver Green Party must meet the following criteria:  
A candidate should endorse the Ten Key Values as interpreted by this party and shall use these values as a basis for their political decision-making.  
A candidate must be a registered elector of the Green Party of Colorado at least 60 days prior to seeking nomination and should comply with any eligibility requirements of the Green Party of Colorado. The party registration requirement of the Denver Green Party will take precedence.

## **VIII. Amendments**

8.1 These bylaws may be amended by a two thirds vote of the Voting Members present at a local meeting where notice of the agenda for the meeting as a bylaw meeting has been announced for at least 14 days.

8.2 A copy of adopted bylaws will be maintained by the Secretary and Co-chairs.

*passed by consensus on 11/20/16*  
*previous bylaws at <http://denvergreenparty.org/previous-bylaws/>*

## Evidence Group Appendix M: Longmont Bylaws

## GPCO Forum

**Council => Proposal Agreement Seeking => Topic started by: Andrea Mérida Cuéllar on February 11, 2017, 12:27:57 AM**

Title: <b>Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party</b> Post by: <b>Andrea Mérida Cuéllar</b> on <b>February 11, 2017, 12:27:57 AM</b>
--

### **This is Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**

Please read the proposal and keep comments on the topic of the proposal only. This proposal is moderated, and the GPCO Code of Conduct will apply (located here: <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=28.0>).

Designate your vote by using the following terms: **AGREE, BLOCK, or STAND ASIDE**. Any blocks will require a vote of the council.

Per Section 3.1 of the GPCO Bylaws, "A Green local must present its proposed bylaws for approval, and be approved by 60% of the voting Greens at a state party meeting, or by the state council."

There are currently eleven (11) active voting chapters in the Green Party of Colorado. Adoption of this proposal requires an AGREE of at least 60% of all votes cast and also requires a minimum quorum of at least one response from seven (7) chapters.

#### **Active Chapters**

Jefferson County  
Adams County  
Arapahoe County  
Denver  
Douglas County  
Greater Boulder  
Pikes Peak  
Poudre Valley  
Mesa  
San Miguel  
Platte Valley

The floor is now open for one week of Agreement Seeking, ending February 18, 2017 at 12 midnight.

#### 1. Basic Info:

Date proposed: February 10, 2017

Name of the sponsors: Andrea Merida Cuellar and Dave Bell, co-chairs, Green Party of Colorado

#### 2. Title: Recognition of Longmont Green Party

#### 3. Text of the actual proposal:

The Green Party of Colorado recognizes the membership of the Longmont Green Party, as an affiliate.

#### 4. Background: Members of the Longmont Green Party have been meeting, planning and

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campaigning for more than a year now. They have met regularly, have canvassed for our federal candidates, have tabled at Longmont events and have interacted with other locals to more deeply understand the Green Party of Colorado. Additionally, one of their members, Veronique Bellamy, ran for RTD Board as a Green, though the position is non-partisan.

This chapter comports with all the requirements for affiliation, as set forth in the bylaws for the Green Party of Colorado, Section 3.1.

Their local bylaws, adopted February 9, 2016, are included in the References section, below.

5. Justification/Goals: The demographics of Longmont demonstrate a very young population, with more than 26 percent of its population aged 17 years old or less, as of 2016 data. Therefore, it is logical to conclude that the needs of potential members will have to include proximity to home and flexibility in meeting days and times.

6. Pros and Cons: No cons identified.

7. Alternatives to the proposal: Take no action.

8. References: Bylaws, Green Party of Colorado: <http://coloradogreenparty.org/about/bylaws/>

+++++

#### Bylaws of the Longmont Green Party

##### 1. Name

1.1. The name of this local chapter of the Green Party of Colorado is The Longmont Green Party.

##### 2. Purpose and Values

2.1. The purpose of this organization is to work towards a Green society as represented by the Four Pillars (which are peace, ecology, social justice and democracy) and the Ten Key Values of the Green Party of the United States.

The Ten Key Values are as follows:

2.1.1. Grassroots Democracy

2.1.2. Social Justice And Equal Opportunity

2.1.3. Ecological Wisdom

2.1.4. Non-Violence

2.1.5. Decentralization

2.1.6. Community-Based Economics

2.1.7. Feminism And Gender Equity

2.1.8. Respect For Diversity

2.1.9. Personal And Global Responsibility

#### 2.1.10. Future Focus And Sustainability

2.2. The Longmont Green Party's expression of the 7th and 8th Key Values, as well as of the Third Pillar of the Green Party (Social Justice) causes it to declare that we are an anti-oppression party, actively dedicated to the work of challenging white supremacy, cissexism and heteropatriarchy. As such, expressions of sexism, racism, classism, ableism, homophobia, transphobia, and other oppressive behaviors are not in keeping with the values of this party.

2.2.1. Further, the Longmont Green Party explicitly rejects the false ideas that are used to derail social justice movements, such as reverse racism and misandry. While prejudice may exist against white people, against men, against cisgender people, against heterosexual people (or any other privileged group), this prejudice is not oppression because there are no institutional power structures designed to disenfranchise these privileged groups.

2.3. In recognition of the issues that our existing corporate capitalist system present, the Longmont Green Party is dedicated to challenging the exploitation of labor, unsustainable means of consumption and production while encouraging and promoting businesses that are committed to social good (such as public benefit corporations) and/or that are owned by the employees/communities they serve (such as cooperatives).

2.4. The Longmont Green Party's expression of the 10 Key Values, as well as of the 4 Pillars of the Green Party, causes it to declare that global environmental destruction, which includes degradation to the climate, ecosystems, flora, fauna, land, water, and human cultures, constitutes an emergency that threatens our very survival. We understand that the practices of the federal, state and oftentimes, local, governments are largely responsible for environmental degradation. We declare to work to resist this destruction through governmental, and other non-violent direct means.

2.5. A purpose of the Longmont Green Party is to run candidates for public office that align with these values.

2.6. Another purpose of the Longmont Green Party is to educate the public on our vision of a Green society.

#### 3. Membership

3.1. Membership in the Longmont Green Party is open to anyone regardless of race, gender expression or identity, religion, creed, national origin, sexual orientation, appearance, or physical ability.

3.2. To be a member of the Longmont Green Party, one must be a registered voter of the Green Party of Colorado for at least 30 successive days and reside in Longmont or a nearby city, community or unincorporated area (hereinafter referred to as "the Longmont area").

Members of the Longmont Green Party must also agree:

3.2.1. to support the Ten Key Values;

3.2.2. must abide by the bylaws of the Longmont Green Party and the Green Party of Colorado;

3.2.3. agree to support, promote and/or endorse only Green Party candidates nominated by this local, the Green Party of Colorado or the Green Party of the United States; and

3.2.4. should generally agree with the local party platform and the state and national party platforms.

3.2.5. that awareness of the issues under consideration by the chapter is vital to coming to consensus and continuing the business the chapter.

3.3. Voting Members of this chapter are members that have the ability to vote on this local's officers, its representatives to Green Party of Colorado Council, nominations for Green Party candidates running for an office relevant to the Longmont area, official positions of the Longmont Green Party, and a platform or platform items of the Longmont Green Party.

3.4. To be an eligible Voting Member of the Longmont Green Party, one must be a member according to section 3.2 and be either in attendance of three meetings in the last six months or engage regularly in official chapter communications in that time.

3.5. In order to strengthen our party, we encourage members to pay annual dues. We suggest \$25 in annual dues, but this can be modified or waived on a case by case basis.

#### 4. Officers and Delegates

4.1. Officers shall include (a) Chairperson(s), Secretary and Treasurer. These officers will be chosen in odd number years at a designated meeting in February or, failing that, the soonest meeting where quorum could be established.

4.2. In the event of a vacancy of an officer position, a chairperson may fulfill the duties of the vacant position or delegate another officer to do so until a new officer is elected.

4.3. Our delegates (up to four) to the State Council will be elected by a quorum at a local meeting. These delegates shall be voting members.

4.4. It is the goal of the Longmont Green Party to achieve gender diversity in the election of officers and delegates.

4.5. Members voting for officers must meet the requirements stated in sections 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4.

4.6. If a Longmont Green Party officer's position is vacated in between official meetings, the other officers may make a temporary appointment to be affirmed by a vote of the voting members of the Longmont Green Party.

#### 5. Officer duties

5.1. The Chairperson(s) will set the initial agenda for meetings seeking input from members prior to the meeting, take action on expedient matters, and act as representative(s) to the press on local issues or delegate such duties. The Chairperson(s) may form committees to handle specific tasks (such as a website committee.) and will be considered the spokesperson(s) for the Longmont Green Party.

5.2. The Treasurer shall have charge of the books of the Longmont Green Party and account monthly for all moneys collected and disbursed, as well as file required financial reports at local, State and Federal level. Disbursement of funds should be approved at a regular meeting or, if time sensitive, by the officers' unanimous consent.

5.3. The Secretary is to maintain a list of the members, voting members, officers, and delegates to the Green Party of Colorado Council. In addition, the Secretary is responsible for taking and archiving meeting minutes. The Secretary will maintain a copy of the bylaws with any current amendments, forwarding the same to the Green Party of Colorado and any governmental unit requiring a copy, and maintain a list of those organizations requiring a copy. The Secretary will attempt to get minutes and/or bylaws to any member in good

standing who requests them.

## 6. Structure

6.1. Meetings shall be called by the Chairperson(s) by notification of members to an extent as reasonably possible, at least one week if possible before the proposed meeting.

6.2. To establish sufficient quorum, 75% of the voting members must be present.

6.3. Decisions will be by consensus if possible or if not then by a simple majority, except as noted elsewhere.

6.4. The agenda of each meeting shall be determined at least one week prior to the meeting. Agenda items shall be e-mailed to the Secretary or Chairperson(s) in advance so they can be incorporated into the agenda.

6.5. Proposals to the Colorado Green Party Council shall be voted on at regular meetings.

## 7. Candidates

7.1. Candidates nominated by the Longmont Green Party must meet the following criteria:

7.1.1. A candidate should endorse the Ten Key Values as interpreted by this party and shall use these values as a basis for their political decision-making.

7.1.2. A candidate must comply with any eligibility requirements of the Green Party of Colorado.

7.2. Any regular meeting may constitute itself as a vetting agent for the Longmont Green Party, or the voting members may approve a vetting committee created by the the Chairperson(s) consisting of Longmont Green Party voting members.

7.3. Voting members will be responsible for nominating Green Party of Colorado candidates to run for local political office in partisan elections. An officer of the Longmont Green Party shall forward those nominations for ratification to the state nominating convention.

7.4. Voting members will be responsible for endorsing candidates who are running in elections for local nonpartisan office.

7.5. The Longmont Green Party will coordinate with the Greater Boulder Greens and Platte Valley Greens in even-numbered years to make county-level nominations such as County Commissioners, District Attorney for the 20th Judicial District, etc.

## 8. Amendments

8.1. These bylaws may be amended by a two thirds vote of the voting members present at a local meeting where notice of the agenda for the meeting as a bylaw meeting has been announced for at least 14 days.

Title: <b>Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party</b> Post by: <b>Jason Justice</b> on <b>February 11, 2017, 12:36:37 AM</b>
--

Agree!



Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Kevin Alumbaugh** on **February 11, 2017, 10:54:28 AM**

Agree.

Kevin Alumbaugh  
Greater Boulder Green Party

The Boulder Greens look forward to working closely with the Longmont chapter. Longmont is it's own entity and having a local chapter there will be a great asset to promote the Green Party in Boulder County.

Congratulations!

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Sean Friend** on **February 11, 2017, 02:44:42 PM**

Agree! Welcome Longmont!

Sean, Arapahoe County

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Andrew Hamilton** on **February 11, 2017, 08:46:25 PM**

Agree! I'm excited to see our growth continue.

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Shane McDonnell** on **February 12, 2017, 02:35:20 PM**

Agree!!!

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Sierra Garcia-Lock** on **February 12, 2017, 05:28:41 PM**

Agree!

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **February 12, 2017, 06:35:58 PM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Nancy York** on **February 12, 2017, 10:19:22 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Larry Dunn** on **February 13, 2017, 12:49:13 PM**

Agree.

Larry Dunn, Co-Chair  
Adams County Green Party (ACGP)

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Karyna Lemus** on **February 13, 2017, 04:01:41 PM**

Agree

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 15, 2017, 07:17:17 PM**

Ok, we have reached quorum, and voting continues until midnight Saturday.

Keep the votes coming, folks!

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **kcterry** on **February 16, 2017, 08:25:29 AM**

Agree!

KC Terry  
Poudre Valley Greens

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Michael Haughey** on **February 16, 2017, 03:14:49 PM**

We need new chapters and it is great that one is forming in Longmont.

However, there are serious concerns with the bylaws that I believe need to be addressed. Paragraph 2.2 comes across as divisive and negative. It sets a racist tone against whites. The Green Party is about positive messages and unity. A much better approach is to be a positive and welcoming force, such as a statement in favor of equal opportunity, economic system reform, and unity. Using the latest controversial buzzwords seems, in addition, to inflame and divide. Paragraph 2.2.1 takes one opinion on a hot and contested topic in the Green Party and locks it into the bylaws. The result is to exclude anyone who disagrees. Another opinion is that this is also, and even more so, divisive, negative, and racist. The concept that only whites can be racist is a narrow view that is not commonly accepted. It insults, belittles, and excludes those whites who are not advantaged, who are struggling, and who do not hold positions of power. It is the opposite of developing unity. Attempts to redefine racism with the result of immunizing whole groups from being able to be labeled racist seem disingenuous.

Racism is basically racial prejudice or discrimination. Racism is defined (Meriam Webster) as "a belief that race is the primary determinant of human traits and capacities and that racial differences produce an inherent superiority of a particular race".

Prejudice (Meriam Webster) is: 1: : injury or damage resulting from some judgment or action of another in disregard of one's rights; especially : detriment to one's legal rights or claims. 2: a (1) : preconceived judgment or opinion (2) : an adverse opinion or leaning formed without just grounds or before sufficient knowledge; b : an instance of such judgment or opinion; c : an irrational attitude of hostility directed against an individual, a group, a race, or their supposed characteristics.

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Racism and racial prejudice are neither forward nor reverse. They are feelings and/or actions that any person can have or take.

The bylaws are intended to set a framework of how the party will operate and be governed. Often they will include a statement of compliance with a parent group's (the National Green Party) values (such as the 10 Key Values). Locking in one opinion of a controversial topic within the Green Party does not belong in the bylaws. Should a chapter wish to make a statement on a topic, a better avenue is to issue a resolution stating the opinion and post it on their own webpage or in the forum.

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 16, 2017, 03:56:02 PM**

Michael, please keep your commentary to AGREE or DISAGREE.

As an aside, Denver's bylaws are similar and were unanimously adopted recently.

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Harry Hempy** on **February 16, 2017, 05:02:48 PM**

Andrea, I challenge your ruling that commentary other than AGREE or DISAGREE is inappropriate for a proposal in agreement seeking on two counts:

1. The permissible positions, stated at the beginning of this proposal, are AGREE, STAND ASIDE, or BLOCK; not AGREE or DISAGREE.
2. This proposal is currently in agreement seeking. Discussion and possible amendments are part of the process. How could one ever hope to reach agreement on something without the possibility of discussion?

Please reconsider your ruling.

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 16, 2017, 05:05:44 PM**

There is nothing to reconsider. The votes necessary here are already longstanding rules.

Please confine your commentary to the proposal to recognize, as others have already done.

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **GortonA** on **February 17, 2017, 05:48:00 PM**

It is a pleasure to welcome a new chapter to our State Party, and it is gratifying to bear witness to the growth of a movement I believe to be wholly integral to that most elusive of dreams, A Better Future. I believe it will serve us well to count among our allies a chapter in Longmont, Colorado, my hometown. As I'm sure many of you already know, Longmont is manifest proof that it lies within our power to better our society. Fewer than a hundred years ago the Ku Klux Klan marched down Main Street, and Longmont, that quiet wide spot in the road, boasted higher membership in that organization than most cities across the states once part of the Confederacy. That today we consider the incorporation of a group of people who could not be more opposed to such evil cannot be other than a boon to the spirit of this Party, and to the wider fellowship of people struggling to shed the nightmarish inheritance of our History, and to realize that which we know to be possible.

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But given the choice before me, I must perforce second the opinion already expressed that included in this Chapter's bylaws are clauses that are inimical to our most cherished principles, viz

2.2.1. Further, the Longmont Green Party explicitly rejects the false ideas that are used to derail social justice movements, such as reverse racism and misandry. While prejudice may exist against white people, against men, against cisgender people, against heterosexual people (or any other privileged group), **this prejudice is not oppression because there are no institutional power structures designed to disenfranchise these privileged groups.**

"This prejudice". I was startled to read such frank admission of a dangerous conceit from members of a party that has for decades nurtured as its very heart all that is opposed to this. While it mightn't be possible to oppress members of society born into privilege because our society lacks institutions whereby to do so, does that fact render prejudice permissible? Is adopting the tactic of those segments society we count as enemies really in our best interest? This clause, born I think of an entirely justifiable anger, makes us all vulnerable to what ate at the hearts of the men who marched down my hometown's main street a hundred years ago, wearing white cloaks. Moreover, this clause is in direct violation of its parent clause, viz

2.2. The Longmont Green Party's expression of the 7th and 8th Key Values, as well as of the Third Pillar of the Green Party (Social Justice) causes it to declare that we are an anti-oppression party, actively dedicated to the work of challenging white supremacy, cissexism and heteropatriarchy. As such, **expressions of sexism, racism, classism, ableism, homophobia, transphobia, and other oppressive behaviors are not in keeping with the values of this party.**

I'm sure it will be pointed out to me that the operative word in clause 2.2 is "oppression" and that what I object to in clause 2.2.1 is made right in the absence of the power to oppress. I myself do not believe expressions of prejudice are ever permissible, and for that reason I must cast my vote as

STAND ASIDE

until such time as these grievances are addressed either by revision or I can be convinced of my misapprehension.

Title: <b>Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party</b> Post by: <b>Michael Haughey</b> on <b>February 17, 2017, 05:49:29 PM</b>
--

The point of agreement-seeking is to discuss and seek agreement. Only after agreement has been achieved is it time to vote. Without discussion all we have is take-it-or-leave-it.

Michael Haughey  
JC Greens

Title: <b>Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party</b> Post by: <b>Andrea Mérida Cuéllar</b> on <b>February 17, 2017, 05:53:18 PM</b>
--

Michael, please vote. The content of the bylaws is not up for discussion, as they are not asking for collaborative edits. They have already done that.

You have offered your opinion, so now please take one of the following votes: AGREE, DISAGREE, STAND ASIDE or BLOCK.

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Scott Lupo** on **February 17, 2017, 06:33:20 PM**

I'd like some clarification on 2.2 and 2.2.1

[/color] [/size]

[/color]2.2 begins with declaring that the chapter is anti-oppression and defines somewhat what that means.[/size]

[/color] [/size]

[/color]2.2.1 goes on to then define the difference between oppression and prejudice. However, there is no statement regarding whether prejudice is allowed, whether the chapter disagrees with prejudice, or if expressions of prejudice are permissible. Is this a Green Value? That prejudice is okay because it's not oppression? The wording does not explicitly say the chapter rejects prejudice[/size]

[/color][[/size]

I STAND ASIDE.

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 18, 2017, 02:45:56 AM**

Ok, thank you for all for your participation.

This proposal passes, with 8 locals voting (7 needed for quorum) and 11 votes in agreement (85%) and 2 stand aside.

Congratulations to our newest local, Longmont Green Party!

For those of you seeking clarification on their bylaws, feel free to contact them directly.

Thanks again for your participation!

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Chris Allen** on **February 18, 2017, 10:08:39 PM**

Agree.

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** on **February 18, 2017, 11:22:38 PM**

The leadership of the Longmont Green Party has graciously offered to discuss their stance on the anti-oppression language in their bylaws.

That discussion will be had here: <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=318.0>

This thread will be closed within a couple days.

Thank you.

Title: **Re: Proposal 001-17: Recognition of Longmont Green Party**  
Post by: **Art Goodtimes** on **April 09, 2017, 04:21:28 PM**

agree and welcome!

san miguel greens  
art goodtimes, facilitator

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## Evidence Group N: Supplemental Evidence

From: bliftpub@yahoo.com

Sent: Wed, 15 Mar 2017 04:22:55 +0000 (UTC)

To: judyh@inbox.com, counterclockwise@azci.net, nyork@verinet.com, fiercegreenfire@yahoo.com, zheath78@yahoo.com, cowormman@fii.com

Subject: Re: Green Party state forum proposals coming down the pike

Good start here Judy.

I have one other item I'd like to add, and a clarification of the first item.

The clarification: Correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe the first agenda item was one I suggested we cover. To be clear about my intention, the focus of the discussion would not be our decision/voting process per se, but rather a discussion about, and potential bylaws modification to, Section 5.2 (Structure - representatives to GPCO Council) to clarify the role and expectations we have of the delegates we send to the GPCO council. As of now, the role isn't defined very well, and I'd like to modify the wording so it's congruent with PVGP's consensus- and direct democracy-based structure.

The addition: Dave, Andrea and I discussed the need for a proposal modifying the GPCO bylaws to establish a minimum amount of time a person needs to be registered as Green before being able to vote on state party matters at a state meeting. The point being that we need to safeguard our party from external takeover attempts and outside pressure by non-Greens. Dave and I would like to introduce this on behalf of the PVGP if you all are on board with it, so I wanted to bring a draft version to your attention and hopefully come to consensus for us to move forward with it at the state level. See below for the wording of the proposal.

Let me know if this all makes sense and see you all tomorrow, KC

Here's the proposal:

---1. Basic Info  
Date proposed: March 17, 2017  
Name of the sponsor(s): Poudre Valley Green Party  
2. Title: GREEN

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE MEETINGS  
3. Text of the actual Proposal: Change section 4.1.1 of the GPCO bylaws to read  
4.1.1. In order for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least 60% of local chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of Colorado not less than 90 days) equal to twice the number of local chapters represented.  
After the state meeting, amend Section 4.1.1 to read  
4.1.1. In order for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least 60% of local chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of



Colorado not less than 12 months) equal to twice the number of local chapters represented.4. Background: Though never specified in the bylaws or Procedures and Guidelines, tradition has held that a person could register Green on site at the state meeting and be eligible to vote at the meeting that day. This situation has resulted in highly irregular situations as in statewide candidates choosing running mates who were only registered Green minutes before being nominated. This proposal brings order to the situation and provides locals with windows of organizing opportunity to reach out to new registered Greens and conduct orientation as they are able. Additionally, given the passage of Proposition 108, even with the opt-out clause that parties can choose for state assemblies as opposed to primaries for nominations, a lack of clarity around that new law could possibly draw unaffiliated voters to our state nomination conventions. We must ensure the integrity of our Green Party processes, and a minimum of 90 day registration (at first) and later a one-year registration after the state meeting, gives local parties a window to reach out to new voters and to provide orientation. The end result would be that our nominations and state party processes would more likely continue to be carried out according to Green values.5. Justification/Goals: To maintain the integrity of Green values in our party processes.6. Pros and Cons: A con could be that locals feel pressure to provide orientation for new Greens, but the state party can collaborate locals to put together periodic webinars, etc. to relieve that pressure.7. Alternatives to the proposal: This action needs to be decided democratically, as opposed to an ad-hoc rule.8. References: Currently, Section 4.1.1 reads, "4.1.1. In order for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least 60% of local chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of Colorado) equal to twice the number of local chapters represented." "What you need to know about Proposition 108," The Denver Post: <http://www.denverpost.com/2016/09/22/colorado-proposition-108-unaffiliated-voters-primaries/> On Tuesday, March 14, 2017 6:48 PM, Judy Harrington <judyh@inbox.com> wrote:

Hello, Everyone,

My proposed agenda for tomorrow evening is 1. Our decision/voting process 2. The two proposals that are coming on the state forum. Both are undergoing wording changes, but the main thrust of each one will not change. I think we ought to discuss and vote on each one, so we are ready in case the voting window closes before our next meeting on April 5th.

3. If there is time left over, we can hear a report on the media committee and the movie/discussion proposal.

Are there other items that I should add?

Judy

> -----Original Message-----

> From: judyh@inbox.com

> Sent: Mon, 13 Mar 2017 11:21:02 -0800

> To: bliftpub@yahoo.com, counterclockwise@azci.net, nyork@verinet.com,

> fiercegreenfire@yahoo.com, zheath78@yahoo.com, cowormman@frii.com

> Subject: Green Party state forum proposals coming down the pike

>

> Hello, Everyone,

>

> Two proposals have cleared the hurdles and are now posted or about to

> be posted, with exact wording still being edited on the forum. We

> should discuss and vote this coming Wednesday.

>

> Here is the first one. Wording still being adjusted as confusion

> surfaces, but the basic intent is to officially codify the common

> practice of having the term of office start with the date of election

> and end when the next relevant annual meeting occurs -- approximately

> two years later in the case of a two-year term -- without regard to

- > whether that turns out to be exactly 24 months for what the by-laws
- > describe as a "two-year" term.
- >
- > 1. Basic Info
- >
- > Date proposed: March 12, 2017
- > Name of the sponsors: Greater Boulder Green Party
- >
- > 2. Title:
- >
- > Amend GPCO Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office
- >
- > 3. Text of the actual Proposal:
- >
- > To clarify officers term of office and remove obsolete material, the
- > Bylaws of the Green Party of Colorado shall be amended as follows.
- >
- > Replace Section 5.1 which currently reads, "In order to serve the
- > growth of the GPCO and to communicate our message, platform and values
- > to the public, the GPCO will elect two state co-chairs to two year
- > terms. Every effort shall be made to reach gender and geographic
- > diversity." with the following text:
- >
- > Quote
- > Officers shall be chosen at each annual state meeting held in odd
- > number years to two year terms. The term of office begins immediately
- > upon election and ends with the election of officers at the next odd
- > year annual meeting. Every effort shall be made to reach gender and
- > geographic diversity.
- >
- > Delete Section 5.7 in its entirety. The section currently reads,
- > "Co-chairs shall be chosen at each annual state meeting and other
- > officers in odd number years to serve two year terms in office." This
- > section is obsolete because co-chairs now serve two year terms.
- >
- >
- > 4. Background:
- >
- > Greater Boulder Green Party seeks to clarify the length of service of
- > the co-chairs.
- >
- > 5. Justification/Goals:
- >
- > Historically, terms of GPCO officers have run from annual meeting to
- > annual meeting. This amendment simply codifies past practice, going
- > back at least to 2007. An explicit reference to the co-chair term in
- > the minutes from the state meeting in 2007 can be found at
- > <http://coloradogreenparty.org/about/history/gpco-2007-state-meeting-minutes/>.
- >
- > The meeting was held June 23-24, 2007, in Carbondale, Colorado. On
- > Saturday, June 23, after a decision to change the co-chair terms from
- > two years (which they were at that time) to one year, the following is

- > found in the meeting minutes.
- > Quote
- > 11:15 a.m. Election of new state officers and national delegates and
- > selection of webmaster and e-list manager Tom Kelly of the Arapahoe
- > Greens and Dave Chandler of the Adams-Jefferson Greens volunteered to
- > become co-chairs for the 07-08 term.
- > Agreement seeking resulted in a consensus for Kelly and Chandler as
- > state co-chairs for approximately one year, beginning June 23 and
- > until the next annual state meeting.
- > Dan Sage of the Arapahoe Greens volunteered to continue as state
- > treasurer for the 07-09 term.
- > Agreement seeking resulted in a consensus for Sage as treasurer for
- > approximately two years, beginning June 23 and until the annual state
- > meeting of 2009.
- > Eric Fried of the Poudre Valley Greens volunteered to become state
- > secretary for the 07-09 term.
- > Agreement seeking resulted in a consensus for Fried as secretary for
- > approximately two years, beginning June 23 and until the annual state
- > meeting of 2009.
- >
- > This is an explicit description of a one-year term being approximately
- > one year from the date of the election to the date of the following
- > year's meeting. It is also an explicit description of a two-year term
- > being approximately two years from the date of the election to the
- > date of the meeting two years hence. Although the co-chair terms were
- > reduced from two years to one year, the other offices continued with
- > two-year terms, so both the one-year term and the two-year term are
- > described in the minutes. The description of the term length is
- > repeated for each office, so it does not seem to be a typo.
- >
- > The 2008 meeting was held on May 3, so the nominal one-year term from
- > the
- > 2007 meeting (June 23) to the 2008 meeting (May 3) was approximately
- > ten and a half months. The 2009 meeting was held in July by
- > teleconference, no specific date available on the history page, so the
- > nominal two-year term from the 2007 meeting (June 23) to the 2009
- > meeting (sometime in
- > July) was several weeks longer than two years.
- >
- > 6. Pros and Cons:
- >
- > Pros: There is no precedent for setting the annual meeting date based
- > on the date the current officers were elected. Delaying the annual
- > meeting, so as to put the desire of an officer to serve 24 months
- > ahead of the needs of the party to organize for the 2018 election
- > cycle, hurts the party's prospects for the 2018 election.
- >
- > Cons:
- >
- > 7. Alternatives to the proposal:
- >
- >

> 8. References: Moderator Note: This issue has already been corrected  
> via Proposal 007-15: length of co-chair term  
> (<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=251.0>).  
>  
> Here is the second one. Wording still disputed, but this is the main  
> thrust is that the annual meeting would be in May in Grand Junction.  
> Proposal #2: Set Date and Location of 2017 GPCO Annual Meeting  
>  
> This proposal would set the date and location of the 2017 GPCO Annual  
> Meeting as follows:  
>  
> "As a result of discussion of the History of GPCO Annual Meeting Dates  
> and Locations at  
> <http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=308.0>  
> Council hereby sets the date of 2017 GPCO Annual meeting to be May 6,  
> 2017 and the location to be Grand Junction, Colorado." May 13 or May  
> 20 are offered as alternative dates.  
>  
> Judy

[Andrea Mérida Cuéllar](#)

November 20 at 11:58am ·

Arn Menconi is the Rob Sherman (IL) of Colorado.

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[Jason Justice](#) What ism you got?

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[Abe Martin](#) This is interesting posting here about another Green from a co chair can you explain your point to the rest of us?

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[Max Monclair](#) Who is he trying to knock off the ballot?

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[Abe Martin](#) [Andrea Mérida Cuéllar](#) ok thanks and yes not good particularly when it comes to indigenous issues I am very intolerant of those causing more problems.

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[Andrea Mérida Cuéllar](#) He has us in a situation in which we really have to apologize to the tribal elders.

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Fuck that!

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[Katija Assana Gruene](#) yeah and too many who wouldn't are too afraid or lazy to be a candidate

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[Brandy Baker](#) Colorado GP deserves serious candidates.  
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[Brandy Baker](#) #byearn  
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[Faithe Longo Earnest](#) Wow that is disappointing!

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[Ryan James Seward](#) Among many other unhinged and narcissistic rants and memes, this one made me momentarily consider voting for Bennet. Despite his self-indulgent antics, I voted for the party platform, not the candidate.



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[Andrea Mérida Cuéllar](#) he will not receive the endorsement of the Green Party of Colorado. Thank you for keeping faithful with the party, though. I do appreciate that respect for our work!

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[Andrea Mérida Cuéllar](#) [Dave Bell](#)

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[Katija Assana Gruene](#) i have been thinking we should start a public list....Earth First! or some other group like that had a list of "infiltrators" back in the day. ours may need to be titled "narcissists" or "people who claim to be Green, but really don't represent the values of the Party/Movement"

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[Katija Assana Gruene](#) there are at least three in TX, all white men too....

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# Andrea Mérida Cuéllar posting criticism of Arn Menconi

screenshots made 24nov2016

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What's on your mind?

Andrea Mérida Cuéllar replied to a comment on this.

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar**  
November 20 at 11:58am · 1

**Arn Menconi is the Rob Sherman (IL) of Colorado.**

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**Lori Nixon** Uh oh, what's going on?  
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**Jason Justice** What ism you got?  
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Like · Reply · November 20 at 1:09pm

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Like · Reply · 1 · 9 hrs

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Like · Reply · 1 · 9 hrs

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Like · Reply · 1 · 9 hrs

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** hahahaha  
Like · Reply · 1 · 9 hrs

Write a reply...

**Faith Longo Earnest** Wow that is disappointing!  
Like · Reply · November 20 at 1:34pm

Chat (1)

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What's on your mind?

Write a reply...

**Faithe Longo Earnest** Wow that is disappointing!  
Like · Reply · November 20 at 1:34pm

**Ryan James Seward** Among many other unhinged and narcissistic rants and memes, this one made me momentarily consider voting for Bennet. Despite his self-indulgent antics, I voted for the party platform, not the candidate.

**Tweet**

Breaking News:  
I'm 'Too Trill for the Hill' the story of  
Anarchy in the U.S.  
I'm running against Kanye & Hillary in  
2020. @GreenPartyUS

**STOP FRONTIN - START BALLIN**

**ARN 4 PREZ 2020**

Like · Reply · 1 · November 20 at 1:52pm

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** replied · 1 Reply

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Dave Bell  
Like · Reply · November 20 at 7:59pm

**Katija Assana Gruene** i have been thinking we should start a public

Chat (1)



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What's on your mind?

Write a reply...

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**Breaking News:**  
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Anarchy in the U.S.  
I'm running against Kanye & Hillary in  
2020. @GreenPartyUS

**STOP FRONTIN - START BALLIN**

**ARN 4 PREZ 2020**

Like · Reply · 1 · November 20 at 1:52pm

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** he will not receive the endorsement of the Green Party of Colorado. Thank you for keeping faithful with the party, though. I do appreciate that respect for our work!  
Like · Reply · 3 · November 20 at 1:54pm

Write a reply...

Chat (1)

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What's on your mind?

Green Party of Colorado: Thank you for keeping rainier with the party, though. I do appreciate that respect for our work!  
Like · Reply · 3 · November 20 at 1:54pm

Write a reply...

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar Dave Bell**  
Like · Reply · November 20 at 7:59pm

**Katija Assana Gruene** i have been thinking we should start a public list...Earth First! or some other group like that had a list of "infiltrators" back in the day. ours may need to be titled "narcissists" or "people who claim to be Green, but really don't represent the values of the Party/Movement"  
Like · Reply · Yesterday at 8:30am

**Katija Assana Gruene** there are at least three in TX, all white men too....  
Like · Reply · Yesterday at 8:32am

Write a reply...

Write a comment...

**Robert Lee Worthey** shared The Slay by Mic's photo.  
5 hrs ·

Chat (1)

# Andrea Merida likes an anti-Jill post

screenshots taken 27nov2016

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

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What's on your mind?




Andrea Mérida Cuéllar replied to a comment on this.



 **Myles Hoenig** 1 hr ·  [Add Friend](#)


I have just taken off my Stein bumper sticker. I do not support tools of the Democratic Party.



Like Comment Share




  Andrea Mérida Cuéllar and 7 others

 **Greg McDonald** When y'all gonna boot her sorry ass?  
Like · Reply · 1 hr  
  Jacob Bloom replied · 1 Reply

 **Linda L R Roberts** I do want to know if voter suppression happened.  
Like · Reply ·  1 · 1 hr

 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Suppression? Of course. Have you heard of recent gutting of the Voting Rights Act?  
Like · Reply · 1 hr

 **Chris Blankenhorn** Wisconsin turned away voters legally as well.  
Like · Reply ·  1 · 3 mins

 Write a reply...  

Chat (2)

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What's on your mind?

Andrea Mérida Cuéllar replied to a comment on this.

I have a bumper sticker. I do not support tools of the Demo

Like Share

Andrea Mérida Cuéllar and 7 others

Greg McDonald When y'all gonna boot her sorry ass?  
Like · Reply · 1 hr  
Jacob Bloom replied · 1 Reply

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Like · Reply · 1 · 1 hr

Andrea Mérida Cuéllar Suppression? Of course. Have you heard of recent gutting of the Voting Rights Act?  
Like · Reply · 1 hr

Chris Blankenhorn Wisconsin turned away voters legally as well.  
Like · Reply · 1 · 3 mins

Write a reply...

Chat (2)



# Andrea Merida ridicules Jill Stein's Wisconsin recount request

screenshot 28nov2016

notice the reasonable comment by  
Ajamu Baraka

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What's on your mind?


 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar**  
15 hrs · 


Russian hackers? REALLY? What is this, 1956?


 **Guardian US – Wisconsin Recount Petition.pdf**  
Shared with Dropbox  
DROPBOX.COM

Like Comment Share

4

 **Guy Benintendi** Hey, I've got a bridge in Brooklyn.....  
Like · Reply · 15 hrs

 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** No shit?  
Like · Reply · 2 · 14 hrs

 **Brandon Jerry Villa** God, is that what she's claiming?

Chat (1)

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What's on your mind?

Write a comment...

 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** shared [Ajamu Baraka's post](#).  
11 hrs · 

 **Ajamu Baraka**  
12 hrs · 

I believe that Dr. Stein sincerely believed that she had an obligation, grounded in her commitment to the principle of election integrity, to mount a challenge to the results in those three states. And while I don't share that position for reasons that I am not going to try and elaborate on here on Facebook, the notion that her decision was made for any other reason than that is a position that I cannot support. There are many in and outside of the Green Party who support the campaign's decision to call for a recount. But there are also many Green Party activists and supporters who are opposed to that decision. It is unfortunate that after waging a courageous campaign to build an independent, principled political opposition to the two racist, capitalist/imperialist parties, the recount effort has resulted in serious questions regarding the motivations of the recount that threatens to damage the standing and reputation of the Green party, its supporters, and activists.

Like Comment Share

9

Chat (1)

# Andrea calls Jill's recount effort a scam

screenshots 4dec2016

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What's on your mind?

 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar**  
November 30 at 9:02pm ·

We need to start a serious conversation about to whom we want to be relevant. To the duopoly political machine, or to the working class?

"The big downside that I think both Dr. Stein and the Green Party by association could run into is it's going to become obvious it's a fundraising scam, and that's going to affect their credibility going forward," he said.

"If they are seen as too in line with the Democratic Party, that destroys their independent streak. If they are seen as being willing to jump on the bandwagon of the thing of the day to raise a lot of money, that will create donor distrust."



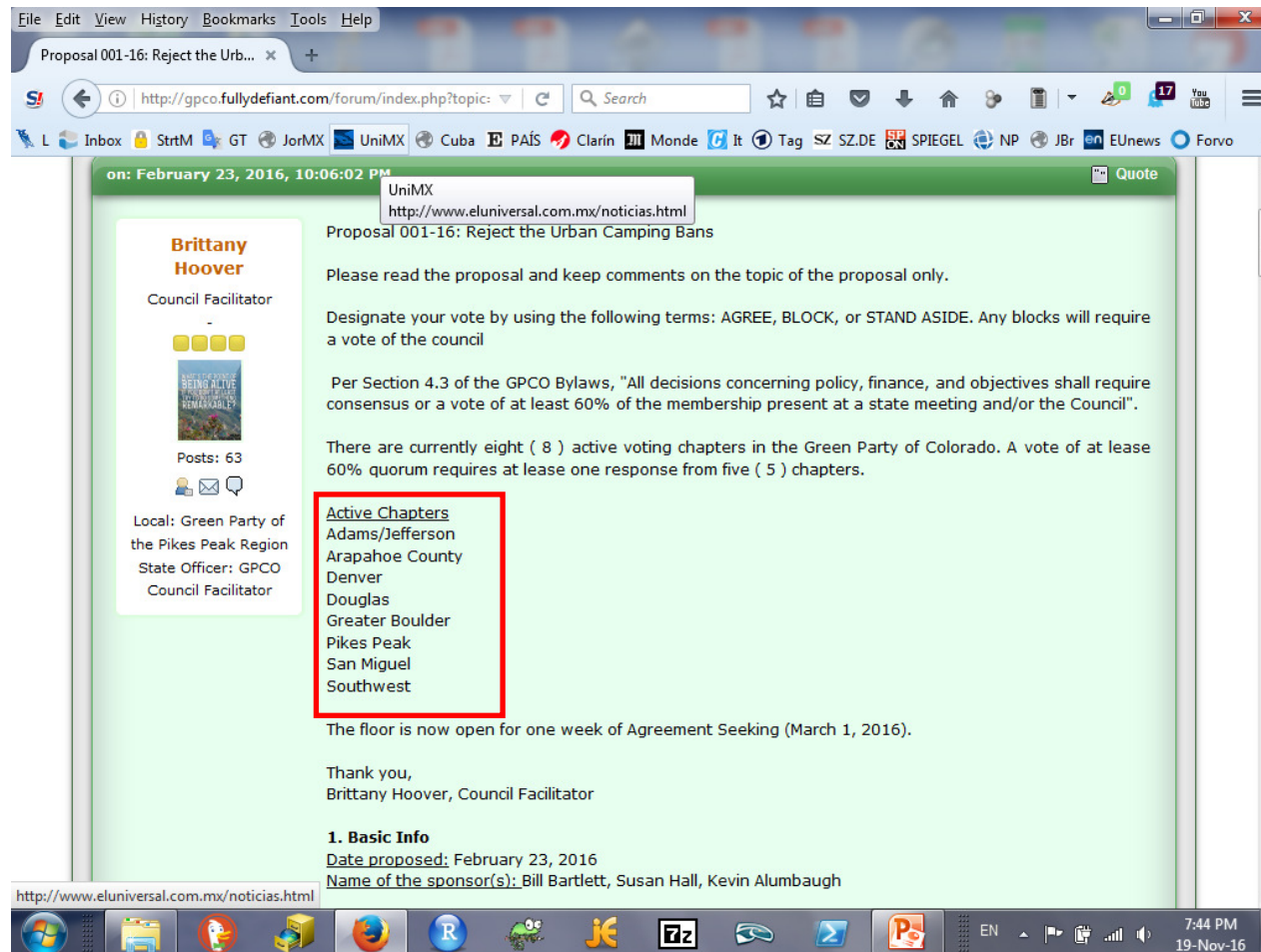
Chat (1)

- 3.1.1 A Green local shall be placed in **Inactive Status** if it fails to send any representatives to a state meeting or if it fails to have representatives vote for three or more consecutive votes on the council, or if it no longer has any active members on the council. Council members will be considered inactive if they do not vote on three consecutive votes. They will be notified of their status by the Council Facilitator immediately upon missing the third vote. They can be reactivated by notifying the Council Facilitator that they wish to be reactivated and by voting on the next Council vote. Council representatives cannot be reactivated in an Inactive or defunct local.

- 3.1.1.2 A Green local can be **reinstated** to Active Status by submitting a written request (email is acceptable) for reinstatement to the Council or to a state meeting, listing its new active members for the Council and being approved by at least a 60% vote of the voting Greens at a state meeting, or by at least a 60% vote of the Council.



Proposal 001-16. Poudre Valley is not on the list of active chapters.

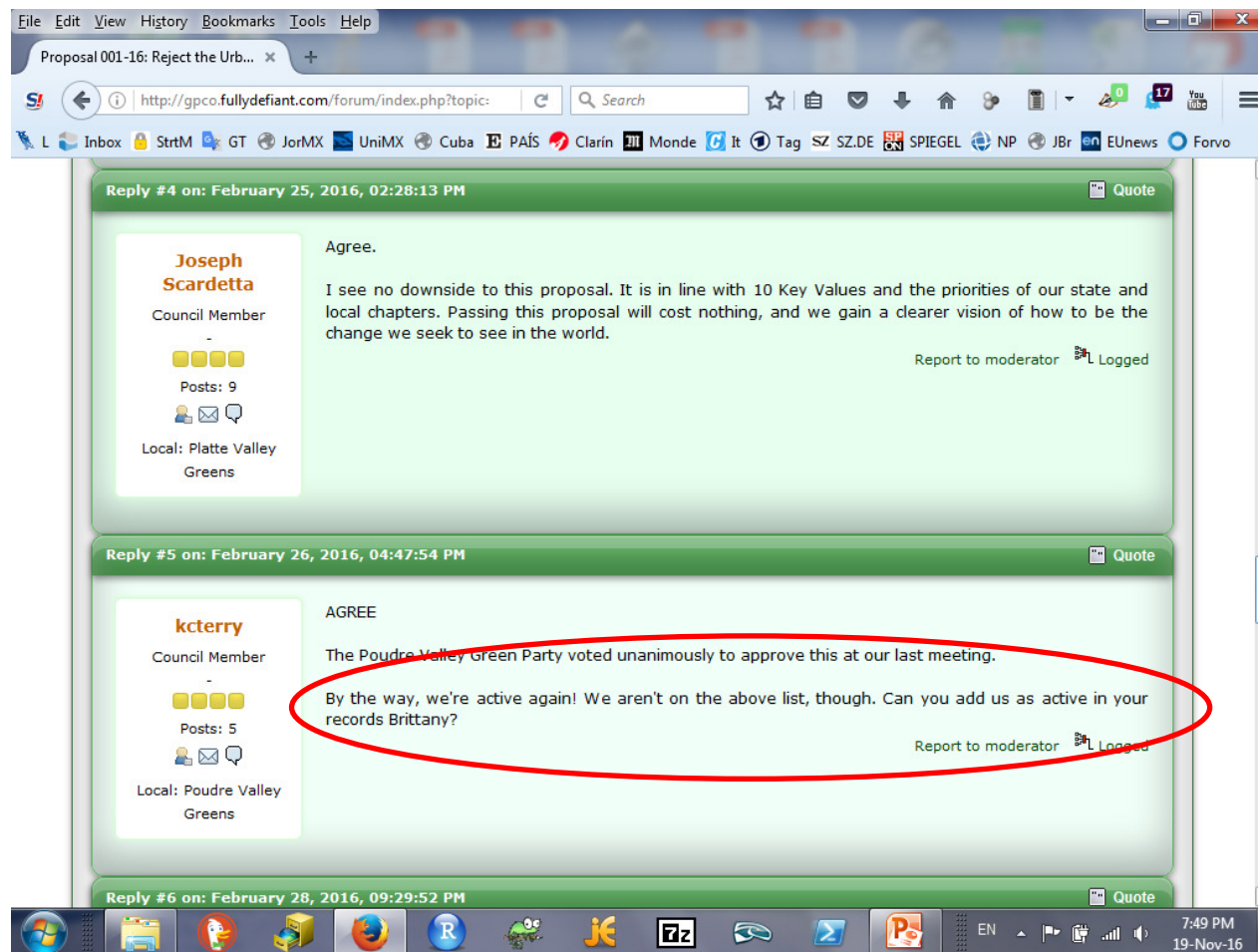




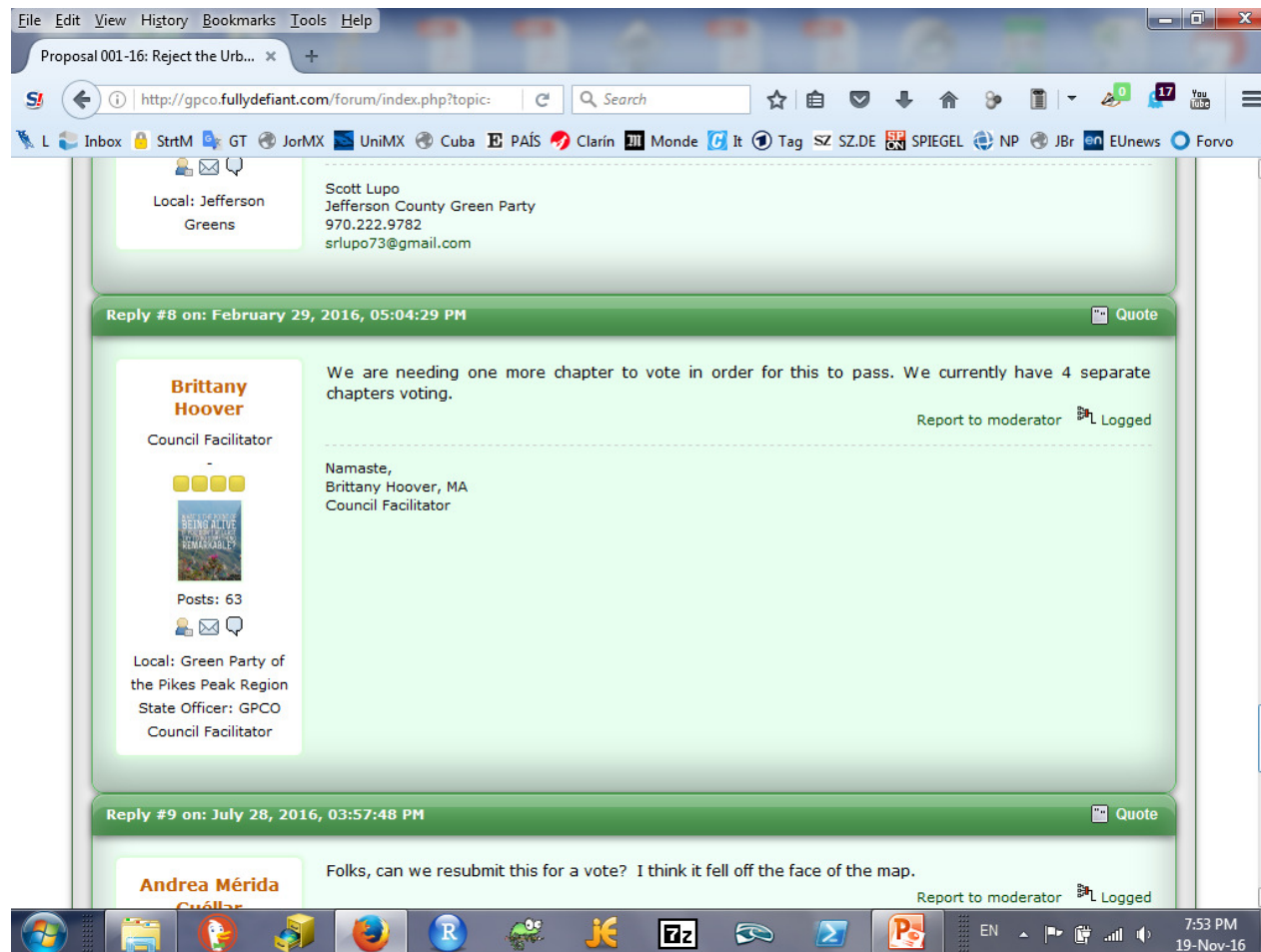
# Those voting

- Kevin Alumbaugh, Greater Boulder
- Sean Friend, Arapahoe County
- Scott Lupo, Adams/Jefferson
- Joseph Scardetta, Platte Valley
- KC Terry, Poudre Valley
- Susan Hall, Greater Boulder

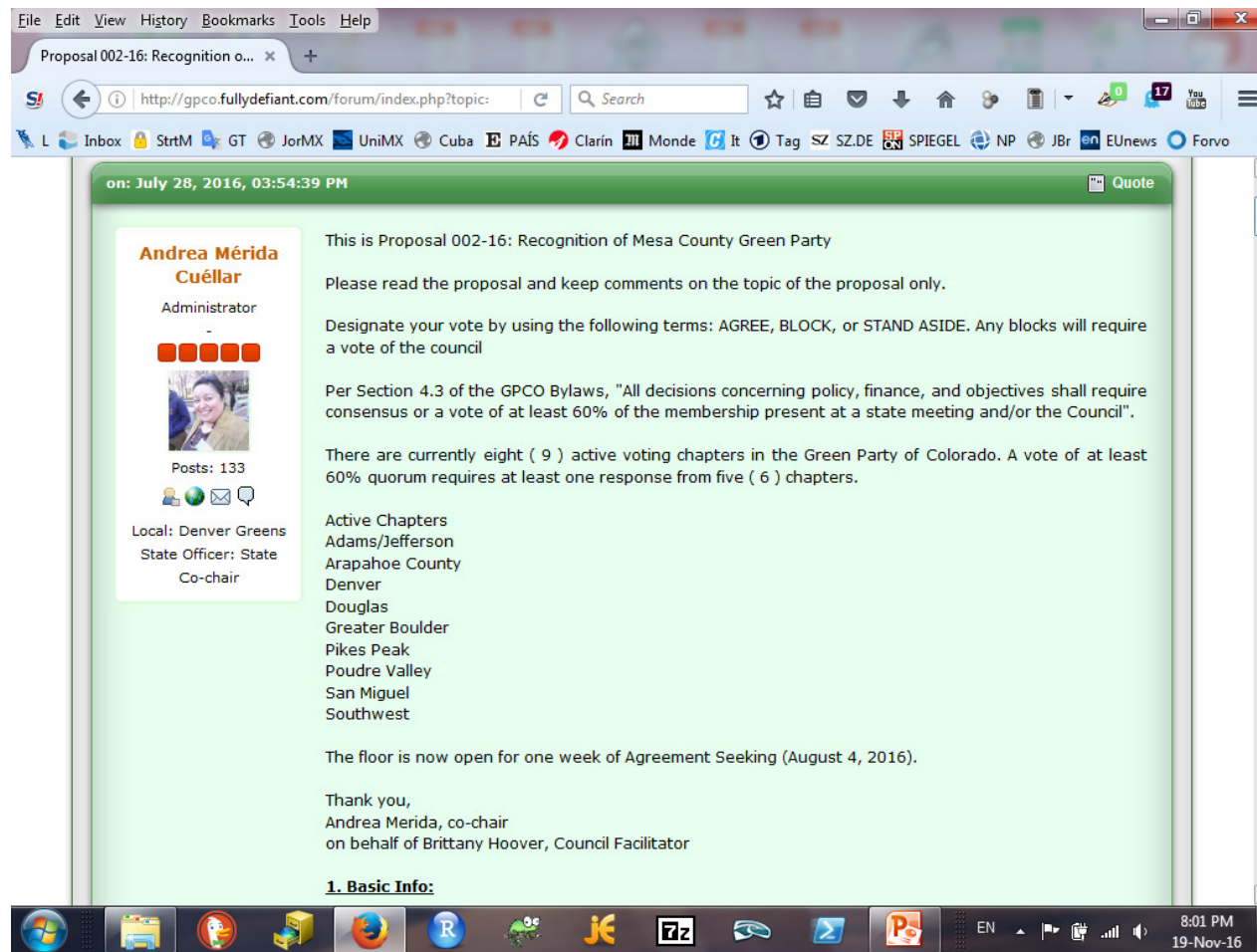
Votes from Platte Valley and Poudre Valley locals; neither is on list of active chapters. KC announced that the Poudre Valley chapter is active again. He asked the facilitator to put Poudre Valley back onto the active list. I don't see this form of reinstatement to active status in the state by-laws. I see a 60% vote.



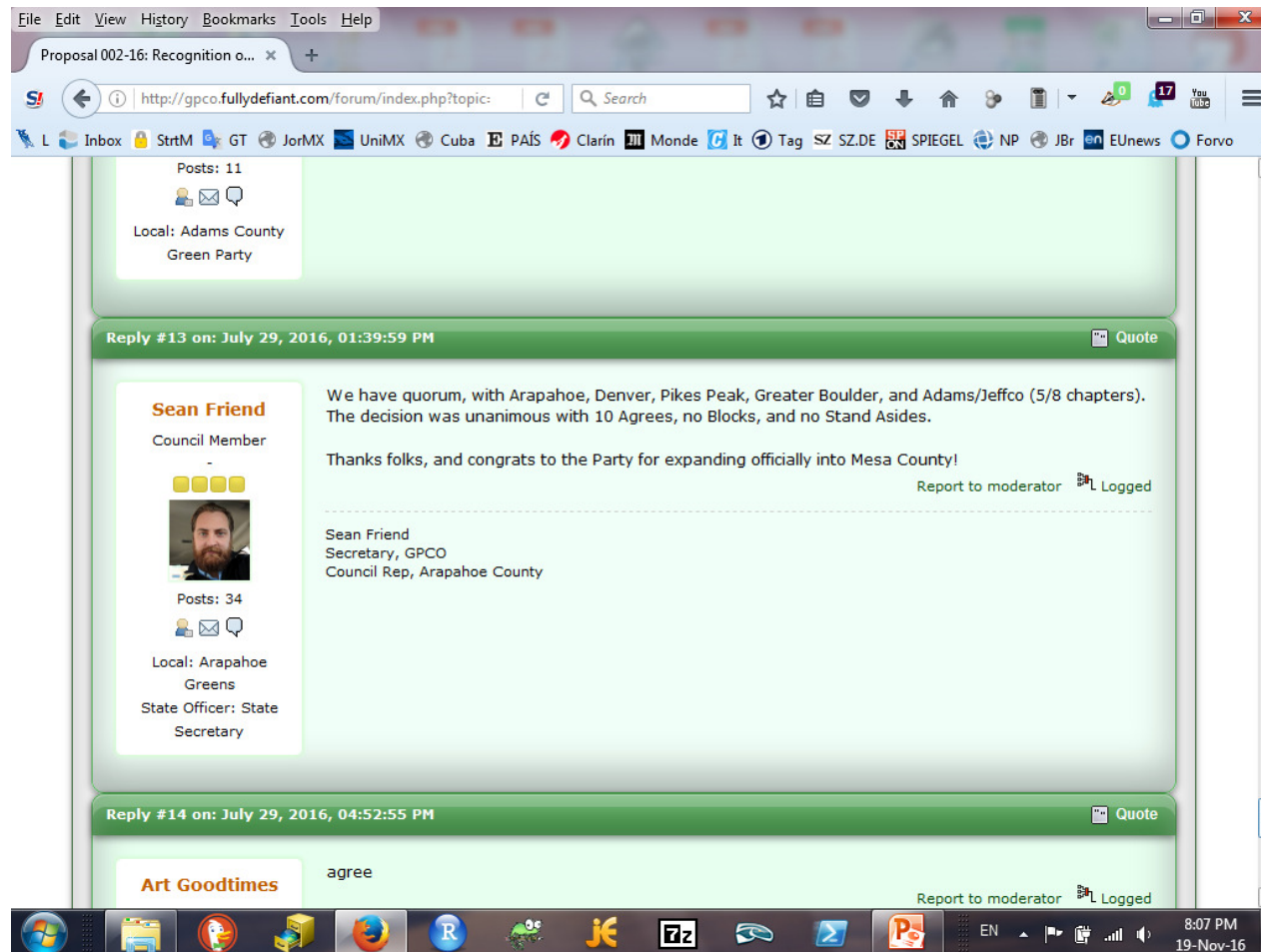
The facilitator asks for more votes, says there are four chapters voting and five are needed for passage. Which four chapters were counted? Boulder, Arapahoe, and Jefferson are the only ones voting that are on the list of active chapters. Is Platte Valley or Poudre Valley the fourth?



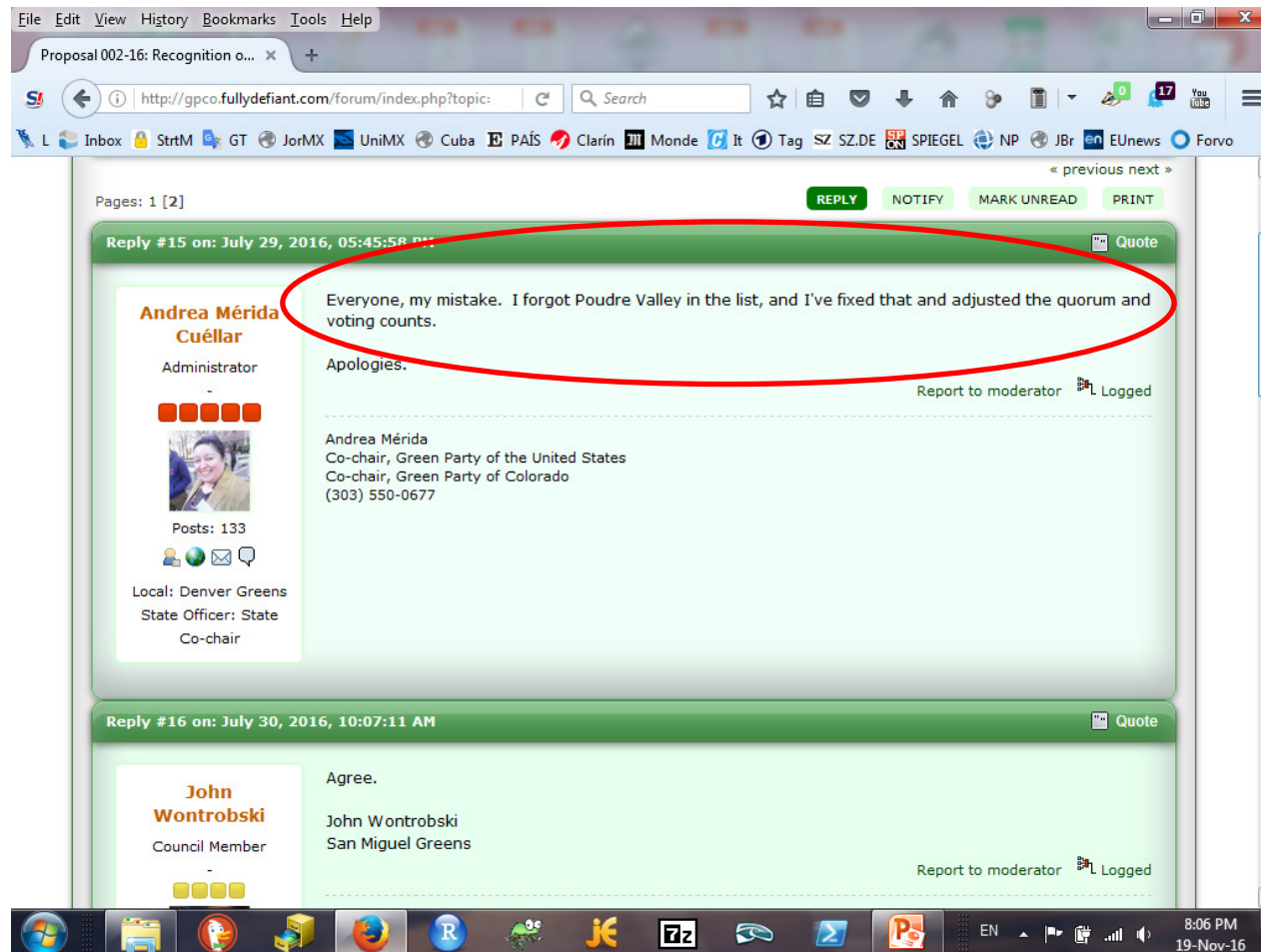
Proposal 002-16, Poudre Valley now appears on the list, but seems to have been added in an edit. Note the “eight (9) active voting chapters” and “at least one response from five (6) chapters”. And see the next two slides.



First, the passage is announced with 5 of 8 chapters voting.



Andrea posts that she has added Poudre Valley and adjusted the quorum count.

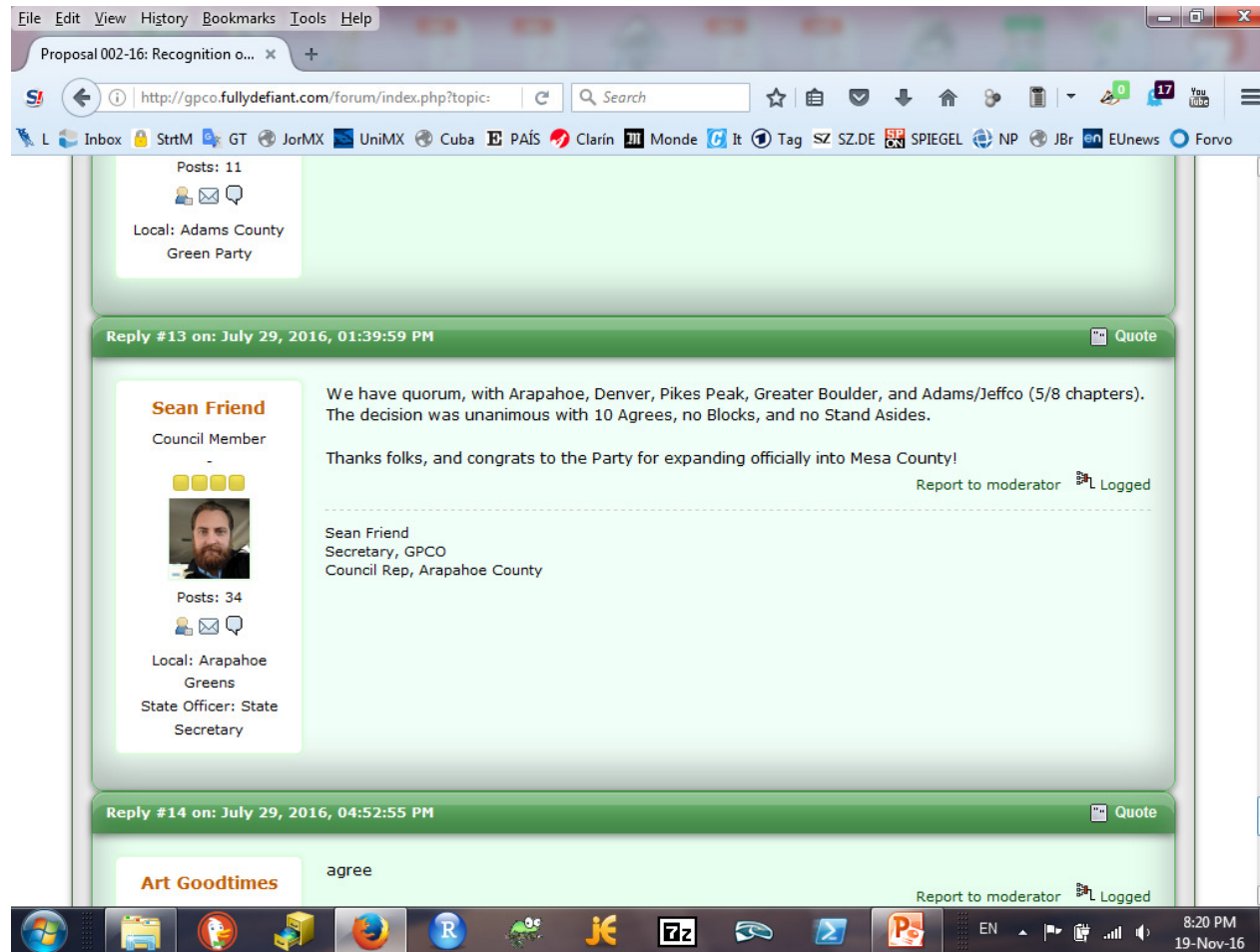


# Those voting

- Sean Friend, Arapahoe County
- Joseph Scardetta, Platte Valley
- Bob Kinsey, Pikes Peak
- Andrea Mérida, Denver
- Jason Justice, Denver
- Laura Clark, Denver
- Susan Hall, Greater Boulder
- Tom Hall, Greater Boulder
- Scott Lupo, Adams/Jefferson

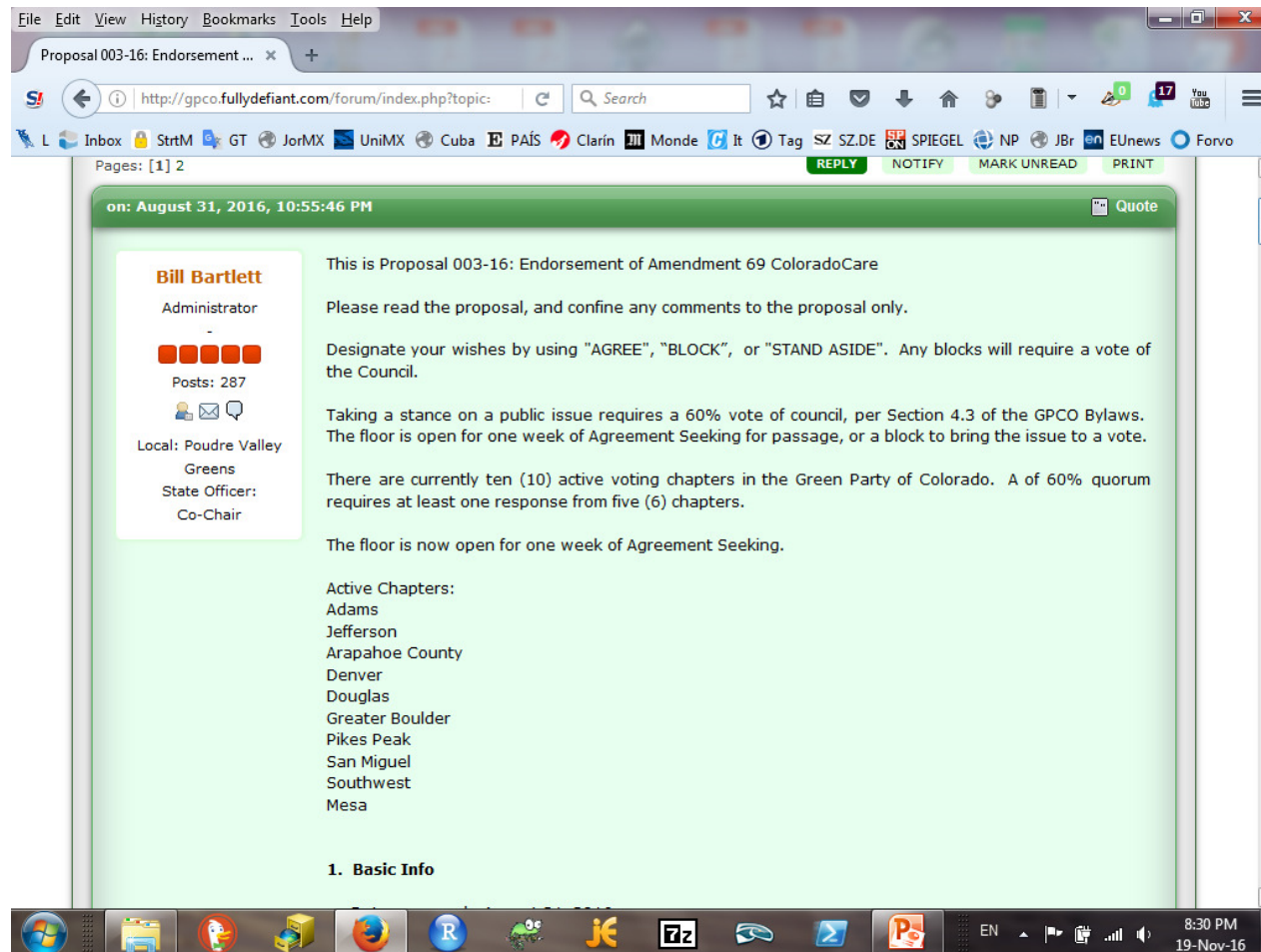


Interestingly, passage is announced with Platte Valley not included as one of the chapters contributing to the quorum. So was it Poudre Valley that was a valid vote on proposal 001-16?

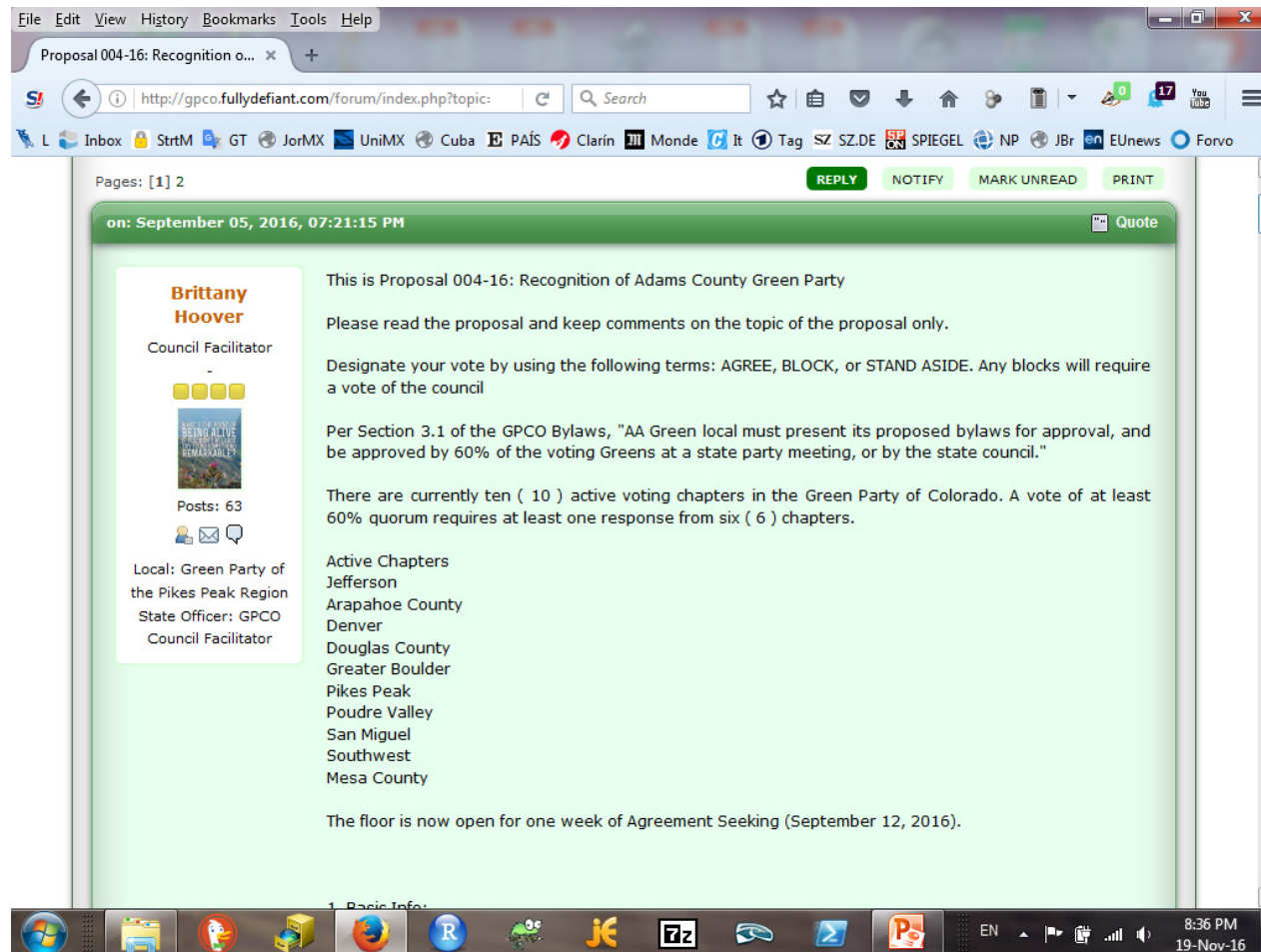




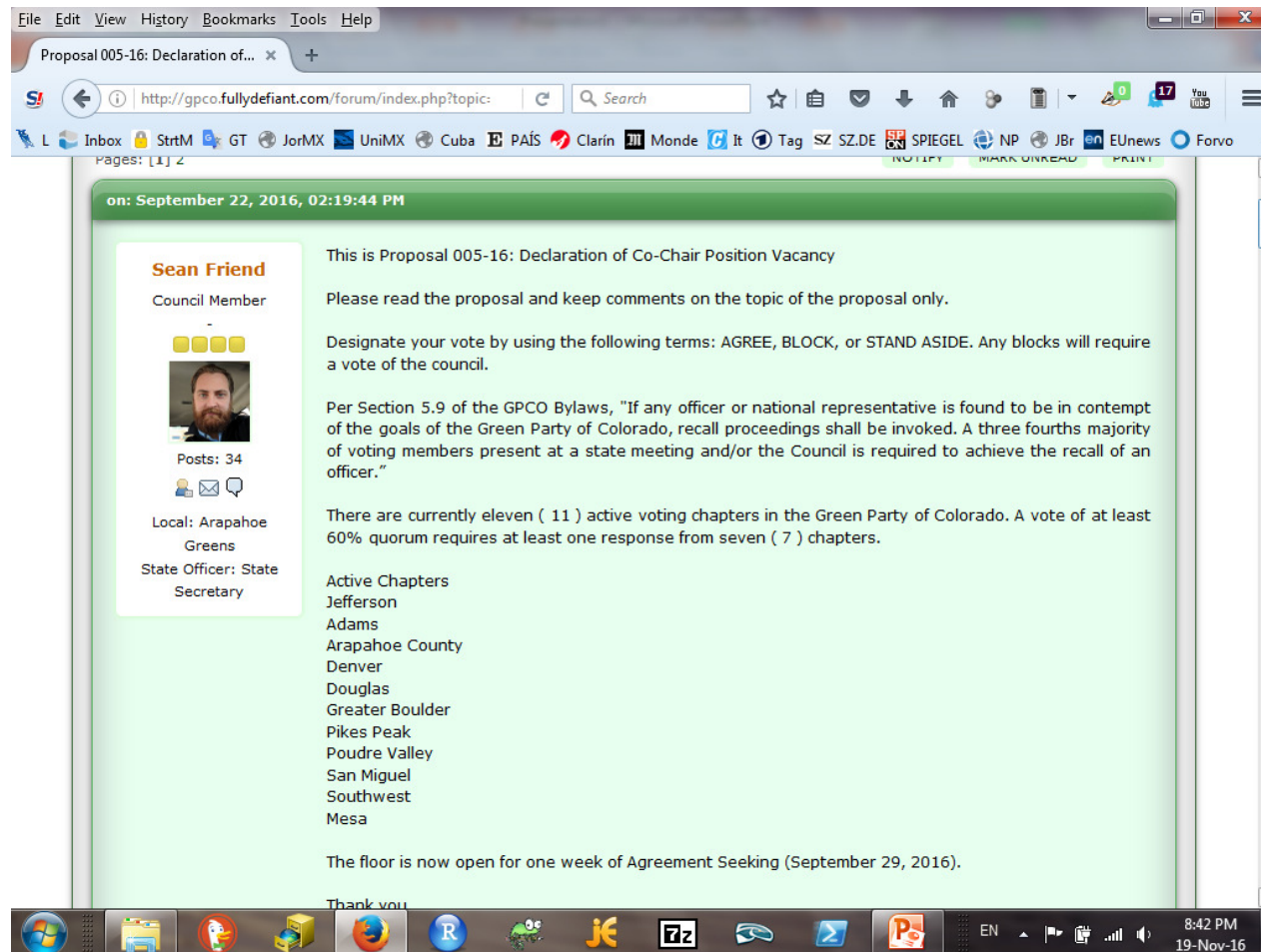
Proposal 003-16, Poudre Valley is not on the list of active chapters, although new chapters are listed.



Proposal 004-16, Poudre Valley is listed as active.



Proposal 005-16, Poudre Valley is listed as active.



A Libertarian friend of mine, Merissa Hamilton, raised the question of why do people perceive the Libertarian Party as racist. I shared the following exchange from January, 2014 with her. I thought you might also be interested in this:

In 2012, I ran as a Green Party candidate for US Representative in Colorado's First Congressional District (Denver and part of Arapahoe County). My friend Frank Atwood ran for the same office as the Libertarian Party's candidate. He and I each had a particular interest in promoting alternative voting systems. Frank advocates approval voting; I advocate proportional representation. We had shared various forums on voting methods previously. At the end of our Congressional campaigns in 2012, we discussed the idea of having a "rematch" campaign in 2014, in which we would make joint campaign appearances. The idea was that we would present our campaigns as if it was a race between the Green and Libertarian candidates, rather than a race between the Democratic incumbent and a Republican challenger. We proposed having a series of joint campaign forums in which Frank would present the Libertarian Party's perspective and I would present the Green Party's perspective. Part of the idea was to have public point-counterpoint campaign rallies: Green versus Libertarian.

The Libertarians were open to the idea, but when I emailed the co-chairs of the state and local Green Party organizations about our proposal, Denver Green Party co-chair Andrea Merida responded that the Libertarian Party is racist and Greens should have nothing to do with them. Following are some excerpts from our correspondence.

The upshot of this discussion was that I chose to end my association with the Denver Green Party. Instead, I joined the Arapahoe County Green Party. In 2014, I ran as a Green Party candidate for US Representative in Colorado's 6th Congressional District with the support of the Arapahoe and Douglass County Green Party chapters, rather than asking the Denver Green Party for their support to run in the 1st Congressional District again.

Andrea Merida is now a co-chair of the national Green Party and the Colorado Green Party, as well as the primary organizer of the Denver Green Party.

Gary Swing: Has anyone expressed interest in the Green Party's nomination for US Representative for CD1 (Diana DeGette's seat) for the 2014 election? If not, I might be interested in running again. Frank Atwood, who was the Libertarian candidate for that office when I ran in 2012, is planning to run again. Frank and I talked after the last election about the possibility of a rematch with a "tandem campaign," presenting Libertarian and Green messages in joint campaign appearances."

Andrea Merida: "I personally would rather not have our Green issues intermingled with Libertarians. It's true that we have a few things in common, but I think it's very problematic to blur the lines between our parties. This leaves people with no real reason to join the Greens...they can just be Democrats. We MUST have a clear line of demarcation: we have to stand for something different from the rest. Frankly, the Libertarian racist bent and Friedmanite lust for privatization is anathema to me, with all due respect."

Gary Swing: "The idea of a 'rematch' campaign between Frank Atwood and me came up at the end of the 2012 election, following a mutual interview that Frank and I had with PBS. In the past, Frank Atwood regularly attended Denver Green Party meetings and often called himself an unofficial Libertarian liason to the Colorado Green Party. He attended the 2012 state and national Green Party conventions, and in 2010, he participated in a local access television program on alternative systems with Bob Kinsey and me. Frank has a strong personal interest in promoting approval voting whereas I have a strong interest in promoting proportional representation voting systems. A large part of my personal interest in the idea of a 'rematch' or 'tandem' candidacy with Frank would be to debate alternative voting systems. I think it could also be a creative way to try to draw some attention which has been lacking in past campaigns.

Frank is a very nice guy. He is a perfect gentleman, who has been quite friendly towards the Greens in Denver and Colorado. I do see certain issues where the Greens and Libertarians have points in common, such as opposing illegal wars and protecting civil liberties. I consider the Libertarian Party's economic ideology to be a fantasy that is disconnected from and irrelevant to reality. I think the Greens are the only nationally organized political party whose platform even begins to address the reality of the world's present situation. The Greens and Libertarians have starkly different positions on issues related to health care, social, welfare, economic policy, and the environment.

I strongly disagree with your categorization of the Libertarian Party as inherently racist. Any political group has a few bad apples, but this isn't the Constitution Party that we're talking about here.

Frank is definitely planning to run again as the Libertarian candidate for CD1 against Diana DeGette in 2014, and he will probably get his party's nomination. He told me that the Libertarians placed 75 candidates on the ballot in Colorado in 2012 and that they aim to nominate even more candidates in Colorado for 2014. Their candidate for president received far more votes than Jill Stein did in 2012, and the Libertarians have a substantially higher profile than the Green Party does currently.

The Green Party has the ability to nominate candidates by assembly for any of hundreds of offices in Colorado from county commissioner to the state legislature, Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, State Board of Education, CU Regent, US Senator, and seven US Representative seats. Where are the Green Party's candidates for partisan offices? The only person I know of who plans to run as a Green in 2014 is Harry Hempy for Governor. I'm not suggesting that the Greens should try to nominate as many candidates as the Libertarians, but I would like to see the Greens running candidates at all levels: local, county, state, and federal. If Greens want to run for the local school board, mayor, or city council, that's great. But you don't need a ballot qualified Green Party to nominate candidates for local non-partisan offices."

**Andrea Merida:** "Not a racist party? I mean, look at the first line in their 2012 platform preamble, 'As Libertarians, we seek a world of liberty; a world in which all individuals are sovereign over their own lives and no one is forced to sacrifice his or her values for the benefit of others.' This is precisely why Ron Paul and others would completely rescind the Civil Rights Act of 1965: they believe that equity is disruptive to liberty. That immediately puts people of color, as well as the have nots, at the mercy of those with political and economic power. Not only is that racist, but it's also classist.

I understand that you have a relationship with Frank; I respect that. One of the most frustrating things about dealing with white privilege is this penchant some of you have, of circling the wagons around each other. Unfortunately, you don't get to decide what's racist and what isn't. I do. Other people of color do. To qualify racism for me is an example of patriarchy and privilege, and I will give you the benefit of the doubt that it was not your intent to do so. If Frank is not racist, then he should be able to answer for that line. There are other lines, too."



-----  
Following Brittany Hoover's resignation as GPCO Council Facilitator, Harry Hempy volunteered to serve. Bob Kinsey (Pikes Peak) and Michael Haughey (Jefferson County) supported Harry's offer.

Co-chair Andrea Merida immediately appointed herself to be Council Facilitator, without acknowledging Harry's offer and without informing Council she had taken over.

----- Original Message -----

From: Michael Haughey

Sent: Sat, 19 Nov 2016 14:37:45 -0500 (EST)

Subject: Resignation as Facilitator.

I concur – Brittany, you have been outstanding! Especially in the face of all the forum vitriol this year.

Harry – I support your being the new facilitator. I would also support Bill if he is able to commit the time.

Bob – the co-chair replacement vote is already in progress – ends Tuesday – and you have already voted. You might want to verify that your vote is what you wanted if you thought the vote was something else.

Michael Haughey

JC Greens

---

**From:** Bob Kinsey

**Sent:** Saturday, November 19, 2016 11:14 AM

**Subject:** Re: Resignation as Facilitator.

*Hi Brittany and Harry,  
I get your need Brittany to reduce you stress and work load with all you are trying to do. But thank you so much for all you have done. As I understand it one big task we have to get accomplished is to replace Bill B.*

*until the next annual meeting. We discussed our preferences for that at our last El Paso Meeting but I haven't received any notification that I am aware of that the vote is being called for. Soon I hope.*

*I am grateful that you Harry are willing to take up the responsibility of facilitation. I haven't seen anyone else volunteer to this point. I am sure you would do a fair and competent job.*

**Bob Kinsey**

'Unlimited Growth is the Ideology of a Cancer Cell'

----- Original Message -----

**From: Harry Hempy**

To: Brittany Hoover, Andrea Mérida, Greg Marsh, Michael Haughey, Scott Lupo, Kevin Alumbaugh, Susan Hall, Laura Clark, Chris Allen, Bill Bartlett, Michelle Feurer, Bob Kinsey, Karyna Lemus, John Wontrobski, Ashley Gorton, Andy Hamilton, Jonathan Lullo, Sierra Garcia, Shane McDonnell, Sean Friend, Brianna Friend, Dustin Fiore, Art Goodtimes  
Sent: Sat, 19 Nov 2016 10:28:09 -0500 (EST)

Subject: Re: Resignation as Facilitator.

First, thank you, Brittany, for your service to Council. I know you have always put your sincere best efforts into the council facilitator job.

Next, a vacancy in the Council Facilitator position severely hampers Council's ability to function. Appointment of a new Council Facilitator is needed ASAP.

I am willing to be appointed to serve as Council Facilitator. After 40 years working at IBM I have lots of experience following rules and facilitating processes. Outside of my employment I have facilitated numerous organizations, including the Parent-Teacher organization of the Tucson Unified School District, consisting of about 90 members, representing 184 schools. I commit to facilitate fairly and in compliance with party bylaws, rules and procedures.

Another excellent candidate for Council Facilitator would be Bill Bartlett. Bill has a long history of facilitating Council operation. Bill's facilitation has always been fair, well-informed and effective.

To be clear, the state chair has authority under the bylaws to unilaterally appoint a new Council Facilitator. Council's agreement to the appointment is not required, so the state chair can make the appointment immediately.

Sincerely,

Harry Hempy

On 11/18/2016 10:07 PM, Brittany Hoover wrote:

Hi fellow Greens,

I regret to announce my formal resignation as council facilitator effective immediately. I have been considering stepping down for a while and recent events have confirmed that it is the best thing for both me and the council. Some of you may be unaware, but I work two part time jobs



for a total of 50 hours per week, plus I am a full time MBA student. It was difficult enough to keep up with the demands of this position before, but the responsibility of mediating the recent divide within the party has become too much. I can't give the council the attention it needs and deserves without effecting my personal life, which I've tried desperately hard to get back on track after a severe bout of depression last year. I plan on continuing to volunteer with Greens by focusing my effort with the Pike's Peak chapter and I hope to help at the state level again sometime in the future. I wish you all the best.

Best Wishes,  
Brittany Hoover, MA, ATC, CSCS

## Dave Bell's reaction to Judy Harrington's support of Harry Hempy's proposal

At a Poudre Valley chapter meeting, state co-chair Dave Bell accused then-Poudre Valley co-chair Judy Harrington of violating the chapter's bylaws by co-sponsoring Harry Hempy's proposal regarding the state annual meeting time and place and by taking a stand in favor of the proposal despite Mr. Bell's well known objections to Mr. Hempy's proposals and to Mr. Hempy himself. Mr. Bell insisted that "this chapter votes as one" and that Ms. Harrington had violated by-law 4.1, which reads "In all decisions, PVGP will strive to achieve consensus. Failing consensus, decisions shall require a vote of at least 75% of the voting members present at a general or special meeting." When Ms. Harrington and another chapter member pointed out that the cited bylaw did not address the situation at all and that there was no bylaw against a representative co-sponsoring proposals, Mr. Bell wrote one and pushed chapter members to pass it at the March 15 chapter meeting. The new bylaw reads "5.2.3 Council delegates may, individually or as PVGP, introduce, sponsor, or co-sponsor proposals for consideration by the council only after consensus is achieved amongst PVGP members."

**Topic reply: Amend Bylaws to Clarify Two Year Term of Office**  
**GPCO Forum sent it out on Mar 12, 2017, 2:18 PM**

A reply has been posted to a topic you are watching by Andrea Mérida Cuéllar.

View the reply at:

<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=317.new;topicseen#new>

Unsubscribe to this topic by using this link:

<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?action=notify;topic=317.0>

The text of the reply is shown below:

Couple of things: I'm removing the hyperbole from your background statement and simply am including that GBGP wishes to clarify the length of service of the office.

Also, none of the background in your justification/goals section is irrelevant, because of

Proposal 007-15: length of co-chair term. It's here:

<http://gpco.fullydefiant.com/forum/index.php?topic=251.0>

You made an amendment to that proposal, Harry. So, how do you want to address that in an amended Justifications/Goals section?

Regards,

The GPCO Forum Team.

Good start here Judy.

I have one other item I'd like to add, and a clarification of the first item.

The clarification: Correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe the first agenda item was one I

suggested we cover. To be clear about my intention, the focus of the discussion would not

be our decision/voting process per se, but rather a discussion about, and potential bylaws

modification to, Section 5.2 (Structure - representatives to GPCO Council) to clarify the

role and expectations we have of the delegates we send to the GPCO council.

As of now, the

role isn't defined very well, and I'd like to modify the wording so it's congruent with

PVGP's consensus- and direct democracy-based structure.

The addition: Dave, Andrea and I discussed the need for a proposal modifying the GPCO

bylaws to establish a minimum amount of time a person needs to be registered as Green

before being able to vote on state party matters at a state meeting. The point being that

we need to safeguard our party from external takeover attempts and outside pressure by

non-Greens. Dave and I would like to introduce this on behalf of the PVGP if you all are

on board with it, so I wanted to bring a draft version to your attention and hopefully

come to consensus for us to move forward with it at the state level. See below for the

wording of the proposal.

Let me know if this all makes sense and see you all tomorrow,

KC

Here's the proposal:

---1. Basic InfoDate proposed: March 17, 2017Name of the sponsor(s): Poudre Valley

Green Party2. Title: GREEN REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE MEETINGS3. Text of the

actual Proposal: Change section 4.1.1 of the GPCO bylaws to read4.1.1. In order for

official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least 60% of local

chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in

the Green Party of Colorado not less than 90 days) equal to twice the number of local

chapters represented.After the state meeting, amend Section 4.1.1 to read4.1.1. In order

for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least 60% of local

chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in

the Green Party of Colorado not less than 12 months) equal to twice the number of local

chapters represented.4. Background: Though never specified in the bylaws or Procedures and Guidelines, tradition has held that a person could register Green on site at the state meeting and be eligible to vote at the meeting that day. This situation has resulted in highly irregular situations as in statewide candidates choosing running mates who were only registered Green minutes before being nominated. This proposal brings order to the situation and provides locals with windows of organizing opportunity to reach out to new registered Greens and conduct orientation as they are able. Additionally, given the passage of Proposition 108, even with the opt-out clause that parties can choose for state assemblies as opposed to primaries for nominations, a lack of clarity around that new law could possibly draw unaffiliated voters to our state nomination conventions. We must ensure the integrity of our Green Party processes, and a minimum of 90 day registration (at first) and later a one-year registration after the state meeting, gives local parties a window to reach out to new voters and to provide orientation. The end result would be that our nominations and state party processes would more likely continue to be carried out according to Green values.5. Justification/Goals: To maintain the integrity of Green values in our party processes.6. Pros and Cons: A con could be that locals feel pressure to provide orientation for new Greens, but the state party can collaborate locals to put together periodic webinars, etc. to relieve that pressure.7. Alternatives to the proposal: This action needs to be decided democratically, as opposed to an ad-hoc rule.8. References: Currently, Section 4.1.1 reads, "4.1.1. In order for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least 60% of local chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of Colorado) equal to twice the number of local chapters represented." "What you need to know about Proposition 108," The Denver Post: <http://www.denverpost.com/2016/09/22/colorado-proposition-108-unaffiliated-voter-s-primaries/>



**Damian Gonzales**

May 12 at 7:26am · Welby, CO · 🌐

*Note: Damian is the secretary of the Adams County Green Party in Colorado*

If you cannot or will not directly confront your position(s) of privilege in a hierarchy of oppression, you cannot reasonably expect to contribute to any revolutionary movement which intends to eliminate hierarchy as a whole. You are not entitled to a seat at the revolutionary table with the people whose emotional and other labor you are asking for and benefit from constantly, both within and outside of the movement.

Radical spaces are and should be controlled from the "bottom up," as in everyone should be working to amplify the voices of the oppressed and to quiet our own voices when engaging in discourse with those who are marginalized by a hierarchy which privileges us. This is even more true in real life than on the internet. If you enter into a radical space intent on doing serious work, you will be laughed and/or shouted out of the room if you think you're going to stop the conversation and ask the people at work to speak more nicely of oppressors or to stop expressing anger at the dominant classes.

It is YOUR JOB to get up-to-speed with the discourse of those spaces. It is your job to remember that even if you're the only cis man in a feminist space or the only white in an anti-racist space, you are NOT at a disadvantage. You cannot be oppressed in that situation. It is not the job of that group to continually stop having productive discourse in order to comfort and remind you that you're not being oppressed.

I'll start: I'm a pan cis POC man, do not talk over me if you are White or hetero/cis. Do not try to control my reaction to heteronormative patriarchy. I am mentally ill, so do not try to school me on ableism if you are a neurotypical. You do not know more about my struggle than I do. I am always doing the homework to acknowledge my male privilege and work against the patriarchy as an institution. If I see women talking about

feminism, I CAN NOT offer my input as equally valuable to theirs, I can't have a kneejerk reaction about comments about killing men or white people sucking. That is my homework to do: to stay out of the way of my comrades doing important work, and to assist them and amplify their voices from the sidelines.

#wearegreen #greenparty



Like




Comment



Share


   Lawrence Dunn, Sean Michael McMullin and 47 others


4 shares

 **William Li Campanello** Them's an awful lot of rules... No wonder folks shy away from "Green discourse".


Like · Reply ·  1 · May 12 at 7:40am

 **Damian Gonzales** It's pretty easy. Stay in your lane.


Like · Reply ·  3 · May 12 at 7:41am

 **April Michelle MacKay** The super highway of revolution?


Like · Reply ·  1 · May 12 at 8:10am


 Write a reply...



 **William Li Campanello** Seems to me you're merely reinforcing the very constructs you seek to transcend.


Like · Reply ·  5 · May 12 at 7:43am

 **Sean Michael McMullin** No one's trying to transcend any constructs here. So long as the oppressions exist, we need to be able to talk about them. And privileged folks need to stop trying to silence oppressed folks.


Like · Reply ·  2 · May 12 at 10:23am


 Write a reply...





 **Damian Gonzales** How so?


Like · Reply ·  1 · May 12 at 7:44am

 **William Li Campanello** By slinging around labels as if they were objects and reifying them with the energy of righteousness.

Like · Reply ·  3 · May 12 at 7:58am

 **Damian Gonzales** Those labels may be meaningless to you but to me that is who I am. They define who I am and what I've been through. You don't get to tell women how to be women, you don't get to tell me how to be me. I've experience things as a Latino man that have shaped who I am etc.

Like · Reply ·  4 · May 12 at 9:31am

 **Sean Michael McMullin** Labels are super important. If you take away our ability to talk about oppressions that target specific groups, how on earth are we going to dismantle them?

Like · Reply ·  4 · May 12 at 9:59am · Edited



Like · Reply · 4 · May 12 at 9:59am · Edited



**William Li Campanello** Labels are labels. It's all they are. Identifying with psuedoconstructs and then excluding those who don't fit in is the worst excess of identity politics, a politics that divides and eviscerates human wholeness and insures defeat and disinterest.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:13pm



**William Li Campanello** This is one of the main reasons so many people, even quite progressive ones who might otherwise ascribe to platformpolicy, want nothing to do with the Green Party.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:48pm



**Damian Gonzales** That's the way YOU choose to see it. These are issues Sociologists and others have been working on for decades. You absolutely refuse to even consider what I'm saying and all you hear is want you want to hear. You want to make it seem like I'm the one attacking you. If that's the reason they won't join us then I don't want them. What good are they to us if they want to keep they're eyes shut?

Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 1:02pm



**Chris Blankenhorn** The fact that race is a social construct has absolutely no bearing on the fact that people of color experience racism every day. Whether or not the oppression is based on a real thing or not is irrelevant because the oppression undeniably exists. To claim that race is a construct and that to combat racism is to reify the construct is to side with white supremacy and seek to diminish the experiences of marginalized individuals.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 3:52pm



Write a reply...



**April Michelle MacKay** Have you heard about the new Poor Peoples Movement?

Like · Reply · May 12 at 7:52am



**Damian Gonzales** What is it?

Like · Reply · May 12 at 7:53am



**April Michelle MacKay** Here's a link. I think that it is important to note that mlk was assassinated after he began to organize for economic justice and was openly anti-war. The empire runs on these.  
<https://poorpeoplescampaign.org/>



### A New Poor People's Campaign for Today

Learn more about the effort to build a new Poor...

[POORPEOPLES CAMPAIGN.ORG](https://poorpeoplescampaign.org)

*Blankenhorn is Chris Blankenhorn, Co-Chair of Green Party US, GPUS Youth Caucus, Illinois*



Like · Reply · May 12 at 9:48am

**Preston Thacker** We have a continuation of the PPC here in Savannah, called PPC-CAT (community action team)  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 9:48am

**Damian Gonzales** I'll do some digging.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 9:53am

Write a reply...

**Christi Catlett Oates** Zac Garcia Quinn Webb Rachel Gray - interesting - I hope no one in the GP is talking of killing anyone and if they do regardless of what race they are and what class of person they want to kill I will remind them we are a party of peace and our job if we are to be in alignment with the four pillars of the party platform is to promote peace. We don't do that by bashing and spewing angry hatefulness at anyone - even our 'opposition' - that is not a winning strategy and that is not in alignment with the peaceful values of the party.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 8:14am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** What always fascinates me is what some liberals mean as "peace " always requires the oppressed to be complacent about their suffering. It's never about justice.  
Like · Reply · 5 · May 12 at 9:48am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Christi, why did you find the need to tag others? Do you need people to gang up on Damian?  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 10:01am

**Zac Garcia** I asked Christi to tag me in these kinds of discussion. I like to see the various opinions of others on controversial subjects. I don't think anyone wants to "gang up" on anyone. Whether or not we agree on a particular subject, I'd like to hope we're all working for a common cause.  
Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 10:12am

**Rachel Gray** Andrea Mérida Cuéllar Cobb Greens & Friends will be holding a Peace Talk in Kennesaw on Saturday if you are able to join us. The only group I'm looking to oppress are US weapons manufacturers.  
Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 10:32am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Nope.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 11:22pm

Write a reply...



**Richard Moser** [https://befreedom.co/.../strategy-begins-by-reclaiming...](https://befreedom.co/.../strategy-begins-by-reclaiming.../)



## Strategy Begins by Reclaiming the Discourse on White Privilege

Fourth in the series: Organize the White Working Class!...  
BEFREEDOM.CO

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 8:15am



**Linda Templin** Having done feminist work in Texas, I can say that there is some blowing off steam that is natural when discussing the war-zone that women live in. It gives me a starting point for understanding the serious impacts of blatant racism, casual racism, and head-in-the-sand ignorance.

I will never be done getting up to speed on the experiences of POC. I am happy to be learning, supporting, and using the info to build organizations that work for everyone.

Thank you for this post. It is encouraging.

Like · Reply · 4 · May 12 at 8:16am



**Christi Catlett Oates** I think all this talk about race and class is divisive and distracts us from uniting on the real issues of election integrity, environmental sustainability and fixing the broken system. I don't feel it is a winning strategy to bash any group, even white privileged people. Speaking as a white privileged person who has used my privilege to donate many thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours to growing the party, I think it would be a losing strategy to try and alienate or turn off people like me by telling me that it's okay if I get bashed because I'm white and privileged. Doesn't make any sense to me.

Like · Reply · 3 · May 12 at 8:19am · Edited

^ Hide 39 Replies



**Linda Templin** I haven't been bashed for being white. People who are getting mauled by government workers have some real grievances to air as we work towards solutions.

Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 8:25am



**Christi Catlett Oates** Linda Templin I have been by my own Green Party co-chairs!!! unbelievable 🤔

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 8:26am



**Linda Templin** What a drag. I'm sorry that happened. I work with a nonprofit that supports work in Africa. It is a trick to not get into white savior mode. My colleagues have been patient with me when a bolus of ignorance come out of my mouth.

Multicultural work is... See More

Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 8:41am



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Christi Catlett Oates, do you mean to suggest that POC aren't "really" getting killed by cops?

Like · Reply · May 12 at 9:51am



**Zac Garcia** I don't think anyone who affiliates with the Green Party would suggest there aren't horrifying levels of racial injustices. Race is an important and relevant issue. I will never know the struggles of being a descendant of a black slave, of knowing that... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 4 · May 12 at 10:21am



**Christi Catlett Oates** Andrea Mérida Cuéllar really? that's what you took from my post? not at all, please read carefully and with a more objective, open mind. I am an advocate for peace, not oppression.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 10:26am



**Damian Gonzales** Zac Garcia Right and if you're outside a group and they have an issue don't speak for them or over them. That's all I'm saying.

Like · Reply · 3 · May 12 at 10:26am



**Zac Garcia** Absolutely agree, Damian.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 10:49am



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Christi, you need to watch your words. "Real issues." You are saying that our issues aren't real, and worse, you are attempting to prescribe priorities for us.













Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 11:12am















**Christi Catlett Oates** Andrea Mérida Cuéllar you are misunderstanding, I think attacking, shaming and ridiculing GP members for being white and privileged is a non-issue compared to the real issues of racial and social injustice (ie cops killing POC). You seem to have a lot of negative presumptions about me and my motivation and rationale and thought processes and I wonder if you are focused so much on white privilege that you arbitrarily assign those negative qualities to me because I'm white? That is a dangerous and unhelpful scenario. Again, please read carefully and with an open mind. I am not your enemy - I encourage you to focus your energy, passion, and anger toward the real enemies - the 0.01% who rule the broken, rigged, 2 party system. Election integrity, environmental protection, decriminalization of marijuana, these are other real issues in addition to the social and racial injustice. I just don't understand why so many people are trying to attack middle class white folks many of whom, like myself, are huge supporters of the GP. I work so so so hard, spending practically all my free time and all my extra money on growing the party so it saddens me to see so many people so invested in attacking me because I am white and middle class. Don't feel sorry for me duh, but geez, isn't there anything better for you to focus on?

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 11:23am



-  **Damian Gonzales** Why do you feel personally attacked by this post?  
Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 11:44am
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Any person who tells us who our priorities are, and tone polices us, but doesn't help in our struggle, is my enemy. Is that you? If not, then take the advice to clean it up and do some personal discernment. Learn how to be intersectional.  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 11:50am
-  **Damian Gonzales** you can b...2 things #intersectionality  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 11:58am
-  **Damian Gonzales** BTW good leftbook group. You'll learn a lot.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 11:58am
-  **Damian Gonzales** And it's POC selfie day.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:02pm
-  **Christi Catlett Oates** **Damian Gonzales** I have had our co-chairs point blank dismiss our gp fb page as being nothing but a bunch of 'white privileged women' and have you not seen the comments Andrea has made accusing me of a bunch of things I'm not? I find this entire thread a distraction from doing real work on real issues. If you really think I am the enemy I feel sorry for the party. I have personally donated many thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours to growing the party but hey, if you really think I'm part of the problem then hey, maybe I don't need to be in the GP.  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 12:05pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Please articulate EXACTLY what I'm accusing you of.  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 12:05pm
-  **Christi Catlett Oates** honestly, read your own posts, I don't have time for this discussion anymore.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:06pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** And here you are AGAIN, with the "real issues" crap  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:06pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** OUR LIVES ARE REAL ISSUES  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:06pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** You are a fragile white woman that cannot take critique from people you claim to be allied with. P  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 12:06pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** I shouldn't have to say that.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:06pm


-  **Christi Catlett Oates** OMG y'all are reading so much into this post and making so much out of nothing. If your goal is to run me out of the party, then Bravo!  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:07pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** Peace.  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 12:07pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** 🙌  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 12:07pm
-  **Christi Catlett Oates** Damian Gonzales are you serious? please calm down, take a breath and read my posts. I am saying that attacking white privileged people may not be the best strategy or the best use of your time.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:08pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Who are you to say, at all?  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:09pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** No one attacked them. You all had to throw yourselves on the floor claiming to be oppressed by this post.  
Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 12:09pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** It's pretty shameful, really.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:10pm
-  **Christi Catlett Oates** ??? again really? did anyone claim to be oppressed by this post? ask yourself? do we want to turn off and turn away avid supporters because they are white and middle class? is that a winning strategy?  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:10pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Honestly, I'm not interested in organizing you. I'm interested in replicating Chokwe Antar Lumumba's work in the Green Party.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:11pm
-  **Christi Catlett Oates** I am simply challenging your strategy but if you stand by it then cool - maybe you feel you don't want white middle class people in the party because they can't understand or relate to your struggle. If that is the case then just say so.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:12pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** I just did. Your needing to control our expression is counterrevolutionary.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:13pm

 **Damian Gonzales** You're the one reading too much into things. If telling the truth will scare away white middle class people then they were never our ally to begin with.


Like · Reply ·   3 · May 12 at 12:13pm · Edited

 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Exactly.


Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:13pm

 **Christi Catlett Oates** ok, well, if you think this is productive then peace out! I'm going to go on to try and find something more productive than attack fellow GP members by calling them names and telling them to be quiet and let the POC talk 😊

Like · Reply ·  1 · May 12 at 12:15pm

 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** And leave Bruce Dixon alone while you're at it. He is a warrior that deserves your respect, not your pushback.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:15pm


 **Linda Templin** The Sierra Club has had this very thing brought up in their group. They have a new program to educate white members about working intersectionally. They have published some useful materials.

The leadership got pushback from the rank and file for supporting blm. What they are putting forth is that communities of color have everything to do with the environment. Their neighborhoods are the most impacted. We have to learn about environmental and economic justice issues from multiple perspectives.

Everytime something unintentionally unkind comes out of my mouth, i am excluding POC by being annoying. POC are busy. They can't explain every last thing.

Like · Reply ·  4 · May 12 at 4:24pm

 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Linda Templin you just continue to impress me. Thank you for working hard to come together with folks. Solidarity!

Like · Reply ·  2 · May 12 at 4:25pm



Write a reply...







**Rachel Gray** My take is that the young millennial and Z generation are moving away from defined labels. They want to be gender fluid and with every decade, America becomes less a salad of separated 'races' and a true melting pot of citizens with various combinations of ethnic backgrounds.

I also think any label that needs an acronym runs the risk of seeming exclusionary...as in hard to grasp...and not reflective of real people who are not acronyms but a mix of experiences, hardships and dreams. For instance, I am still not sure (as in confused and uncertain) if a Hispanic Georgia Green member is considered a POC per the GaGP bylaws.

Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 9:27am · Edited

^ Hide 13 Replies



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Y'all can't handle Bruce Dixon's truth, eh? lololol

Like · Reply · May 12 at 9:54am



**Rachel Gray** I'm not sure what truth you are speaking about. As a woman who has been a progressive journalist for years I have sought truth. If you mean calling me privileged, then no...that is not true. Yes, much more than others...but a lot less as I was born white, but very near the poverty line...but still much more privileged than my parents and grandparents.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 9:59am · Edited



**Sean Michael McMullin** Rachel, you're asking folks to stop using labels because they're divisive, but that's literally how language works. Words delineate things so that we know what we're talking about. As a bisexual person, it's extremely important that I be able to talk a... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 3 · May 12 at 10:18am · Edited



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Yeah, my justice is more important than your comfort.

Like · Reply · 3 · May 12 at 10:16am



**Rachel Gray** I am not telling anyone what to do. I'm saying that even positive labels might feel like they are being forced on someone inaccurately or in a condescending way. I would not want to label another person, and I would not want to be labeled by others who don't know me.

As far as comfort...I've been a progressive reporter for years, beyond activism for ACORN in native New Mexican communities, Boys and Girls Clubs in South Cobb and as a medical missionary in villages of Uganda.

I do not place my needs before others literally as often as I can. But again, you don't actually know me.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 10:28am · Edited



**Sean Michael McMullin** But again, you're taking a privileged position here. It's not about what "qualifications" you think you have because you're a good white savior. It's about the fact that oppressed folks are using words that you don't like, and as someone who is not a member of that oppressed group, you don't have any right to try to control how they talk about their oppression. That has consistently been Damian's point here and you're not addressing it.

And no, as a 'non black person from a racist area', you are not the perfect person to break down divisions within communities of color. Try focusing on using your privilege to dismantle racism within the privileged circles you find yourself in.

Like · Reply · 3 · May 12 at 10:45am



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** The fact that you need to sculpt how we express ourselves says that your credentials aren't working. You are not yet qualified to analyze our situation. By tone policing and rolling out your resume, you ARE putting your needs ahead.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 11:10am



**Rachel Gray** Sean Michael McMullin actually my statement was that I might be the best person to discuss issues of oppression of communities of color to poor white rural communities.

So if I ignore oppression I am an oppressor, but if I'm an activist striving for change I'm a savior?

I can't change my skin color. So what is your solution...to not be involved? I've been a journalist and activist for years, and the communities I've worked in don't see me as privileged they see me as an involved community member of journalist.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 11:10am



**Rachel Gray** Again, I have not asked any of you to change your actions, but to understand how the labels you use like white and privileged might feel to let's say my cousin who was born very poor and stated a family with her Mexican immigrant husband.

You all seem to defend labels, but don't want to really know the people you are labeling.

I would never use a derogatory, race baiting, label on purpose to pigeon hole someone's life and purpose. I'm merely asking for that same consideration based on the race and gender I was assigned at birth.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 11:13am



**Damian Gonzales** Recognize your privilege and use it to empower people who don't have that privilege.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 11:14am



**Damian Gonzales** You don't get to speak for the Black movement/Latino movement etc. But they need assistance. Be there for them. FOR THEM.  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 11:15am

**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Race baiting? Enough with the tokenism already.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 11:25am

**Rachel Gray** Right Damian. I've used what little privilege I've been blessed with to work diligently for communities across the color spectrum.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 11:29am



Write a reply...



**Damian Gonzales** Race may be irrelevant to you but we have to live Through it EVERYDAY. I have never once had a day off from racism. Race will be the center of our organizing, as it should. You all should read up on Intersectionality.

PSA:

Calling attention to racism is not racism.

Identifying division is not divisive.

Saying it's raining doesn't mean you made it rain.

Like · Reply · 8 · May 12 at 9:27am


**Rachel Gray** Race is in no way irrelevant to me. I was born in a very racist part of the country, and I have dedicated a lot of my life to addressing racism head on. My point is that labels do not accomplish much in fighting against racism. It only further divides. ... [See More](#)  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 9:30am · Edited

**Damian Gonzales** Rachel Gray Sorry I didn't mean you you. You in general.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 9:32am

**Damian Gonzales** All I'm saying is as non-blacks our opinion shouldn't carry any weight pertaining to the Black community etc etc  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 9:34am


**Damian Gonzales** I don't get to speak for women about women issues. etc etc


Like · Reply · May 12 at 9:37am




 **Rachel Gray** I think as a nonblack from a racist area, I might be the perfect person to break down the real issues in communities of color so that rural small town whites are willing to listen and change.


Also, I have a lot of white friends and family who are married and started families with men of other ethnicities or have adopted children of other ethnicities...and I think their opinions and view points should not be ignored or white washed.




Jill Stein is white...but she spoke loudly for natives and immigrants. I value her opinion over Kasim Reed and Condoleezza Rice.





Like · Reply ·  1 · May 12 at 9:49am · Edited


 **Chris Blankenhorn** Using ones privilege, necessarily with input from impacted individuals, to combat systems of oppression ALONGSIDE front line communities is different than speaking for and over them.


Like · Reply ·    3 · May 12 at 10:57am


 **Chris Blankenhorn** I am very vocal about anti-oppression issues and certainly have my own internally crafted views, but they always get filtered through the The expressions my comrades who experience these systems and I try really hard to amplify their voices with my privilege, rather than push my own perspectives. This filtering of our gut instinct and worldview through the perspectives of those we seek to advocate for is essential.


Like · Reply ·    4 · May 12 at 11:18am · Edited





 Write a reply...   


 **Damian Gonzales** We do not live in a post-racial society, we will not end racism by pretending it doesn't exist or by worrying more about White feelings than creating a just world for People of Color.


Like · Reply ·  2 · May 12 at 9:29am · Edited


 **Rachel Gray** I do not worry more about white feelings, and my history as a progressive journalist has been devoted to justice for minority communities.


Like · Reply ·  2 · May 12 at 9:51am

 Write a reply...   

 **Damian Gonzales** NO ONE IS BASHING WHITE CISHET PEOPLE. ALL I'M SAYING IS ALLOW ROOM AT THE TABLE FOR OTHER DISCUSSIONS AS WELL ECONOMIC and ENVIRONMENTAL BECAUSE WE ARE AFFECTED BY DIFFERENT THINGS MORE HARSHLY THAN YOU.


Like · Reply ·  5 · May 12 at 9:38am


 **Rachel Gray** Again, the than you is where you make assumptions. I come from a very poor background...and we need to remember that the Green Party fights for the working class...so I am working hard at not alienating people we desperately need in our movement.





Like · Reply ·  1 · May 12 at 9:53am


 **Damian Gonzales** Being poor/rich is just one type of oppression/privilege. There are others. Look up intersectionality.

Like · Reply ·  1 · May 12 at 9:56am · Edited


 **Damian Gonzales** You're using a class reductionist argument.


Like · Reply ·  1 · May 12 at 10:03am · Edited


 Write a reply...   


 **Preston Thacker** Great post. We must avoid the Environmental Reductionism and liberal identity politics that have been prevalent in the GP in the past. Liberation of the oppressed, not concession to our oppressors.


Like · Reply ·  2 · May 12 at 9:55am


 **Damian Gonzales** I exist to empower all oppressed peoples. I know that sounds a little dramatic, but it is literally the only thing I care about. I'm a very one track minded person. Big picture, not detail oriented.


Like · Reply ·  1 · May 12 at 9:58am

 **Rachel Gray** Then please realize there are many people in the 'white' community who also need your voice to stand with them.

Like · Reply ·  1 · May 12 at 10:19am

 **Damian Gonzales** Last time I checked white people held 99% of the political power and money in this Country. There isn't a white caucus for the same reason there isn't a men's caucus. You may not directly benefit from being white but you experience privilege because of the color of your skin that I or my black/native/Asian etc brothers and sisters will never experience. You may feel that we are trying to take something from you, but we are just trying to raise up ourselves.

Like · Reply ·  1 · May 12 at 11:11am

 **Damian Gonzales** You already have all the seats at the table. We're DEMANDING ours.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 11:12am · Edited





**Rachel Gray** I don't think you are trying to take anything from me. I do find it funny to be lectured by a man repeatedly about power...but most men don't think female struggle still exists.

Listen, I was one of the few reporters who supported Commissioner Lisa Cupid in her vote against the Braves deal.

You are literally a pot calling the kettle white. We are on the same side. I have just as much right to ask not to be called privileged as you do not to be called a racist label.

Again...you don't seem to want me to speak for communities of color bc I'm white...but then you are really sensitive to me wanting to be the voice of poor rural white America.

Basically it doesn't sound like you want me in your party...but I'm not really a newcomer and don't intend to leave...unless it is for the DSA.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 11:26am



Write a reply...



**Damian Gonzales** This was so much spicier than I expected when I posted this. BTW I got my gender/ethnic studies degree from leftbook. Where'd you get yours from?

Like · Reply · 🙄 2 · May 12 at 10:06am



**Sean Michael McMullin** I got my tumblr snowflake degree from SJWU just last week!

Like · Reply · 🙄 2 · May 12 at 10:15am



**Zac Garcia** You've certainly stirred a discussion rich pot! 😊

Like · Reply · 🙄 1 · May 12 at 10:24am



**Rachel Gray** Ernie Pyle School of Journalism from IU where I also studied African Politics including genocide.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 10:27am



**Damian Gonzales** I was being self deprecating to cut through the tension.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 10:48am



Write a reply...





**Zac Garcia** Damian, your post is a great reminder. I'll follow your lead. I'm a cisgender, hispanic/white, mostly hetero, millennial male. I got into progressive politics from listening to Black Panther inspired Hip-Hop. Dead Prez, The Coup, Paris, etc. They talked about killing congressmen, presidents. I heard their anger, and it's not mine to say whether they are justified in that. I didn't grow up a poor black kid, where 1 out of every 3 of my friends would end up in prison. I don't get to decide what's right for anyone to feel or say, specifically because I cannot know what it's like to feel what they are feeling.

Where I think there was some break down in this discussion is in what we, as Green Party members (I believe most everyone on this thread would identify as such, and if not, I apologize for my assumption), are trying to accomplish with our words. Are we trying to grow the party? Are we trying to educate others on social, racial, and economic injustice? Are we trying to change our system of government and elect officials who embody our beliefs to incorporate the calls for justice from the oppressed? These are rhetorical questions, as I'm sure we'd all agree that this is our intent. So how do we do this?

I don't want to put words into anyone's mouths, so I'll speak for myself. I believe the way to grow the party and to educate is with respectful communication. I'm not going to tell you not to be angry, that's your right. I will say that I have tried both routes of discussion and argumentation, and I've found that empathizing with another's paradigm is more effective in getting them to empathize with your own than by flat out arguing with them. Grouping classes of people into labels is important for all kinds of things, such as sociological work as mentioned above, pinpointing which groups are most affected by which societal factors. As was also noted, in language we need categories to understand what another person is talking about. I think the important call here is to also remember that categories and labels carry connotations, and we need to think about what connotations we want to bring to our discussions. Again, what are we trying to accomplish?

Like · Reply · 3 · May 12 at 10:48am

Hide 52 Replies



**Damian Gonzales** Word. I think this was the most level headed post here. Respect. I certainly don't want people that disagree with me to not be in the Party or whatever, I want them to grow and to understand and I'm not always the best at being patient and steady-handed. There are dynamics here they don't understand. All I'm hearing is "All lives matter" when I hear people try to argue against intersectionality.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 10:57am



**Zac Garcia** Brother, I hear that. It's tough to not jump to anger, especially when there's so much to already be angry about. I just try to remember that if I'm on a Green page, more than likely the people I'm talking to are my cohorts. We may have logistical and strategical disagreements, but in the end, we all want to make essentially the same changes. With people who identify with other ideologies, I try to remember that, while we may disagree, they come from a different place. They want what's best for their country and community, too. They just think it's something different from me. Usually it's from fear, so I just try to send them some love and remind them that the world isn't such a scary place, because really we're all in this together.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 11:02am



**Rachel Gray** I am a huge supporter of Black Lives Matter...which is not easy with a family full of white cops who often see color negatively.

I'll I'm asking is to see that many 'white' people are also on the frontlines, so belittling us in a category of 'privileg... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 11:21am



**Damian Gonzales** Don't conflate privilege with belittling. It is undeniable that there are somethings you have access to that I don't as Brown/ you white, but that I do and you don't as a Woman/ me a man. As Americans we are more privileged than the average person from India. Nothing is binary.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 11:25am



**Damian Gonzales** Just use what you have to fight oppression. Why is that so hard.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 11:25am



**Zac Garcia** Rachel, I hear that you feel belittled by being ascribed the term "privileged". It's true, you are white by no action or organization of your own. You didn't choose to be born white. However, I think what Damien is asking here is to recognize that, regardless of whether or not you want it to be so, there is a systemic social, economic, and power structure that favors white, male people in our predominantly Eurocentric and patriarchally structured country. I don't think anyone wants to undermine the work you've done, or to insult you by virtue of your skin color, but disregarding race entirely is equally counterproductive as overemphasizing it.


Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 11:27am



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Personally, I'm trying to grow the Party in a different direction than some of these folks want. It's time for an intersectional, revolutionary party of the working class. I'm not worried about what white liberals want.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 12:33pm



 **Zac Garcia** What direction, Andrea? Does it diverge from the platform at GP.org? If so, how?




[www.gp.org](http://www.gp.org)


Kenneth is a 26 year-old first generation American who is a member of the Green Party and is a...

GP.ORG


Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:38pm

 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** See "Ecological Economics." I'm a national co-chair of the Party, btw.


Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:38pm

 **Zac Garcia** I love that page. I actually just had a discussion with someone who wanted to label the Green economic platform as strictly "socialist". I directed them to that page where it discusses the platform's divergence from both traditional socialism and capitalism.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:42pm

 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Well, but don't be confused. We're moving away from STATE domination in either form. We are actually socialists, and a hard-core socialist wrote that plank.


Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:44pm

 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** What we want to move away from is the aberration that was Stalinism through Gorbachev.


Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:44pm

 **Damian Gonzales** Ecological Socialism is incompatible with non-intersectionality. Think more Kropotkin less Lenin.


Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:45pm

 **Zac Garcia** "Community-based economics constitutes an alternative to both corporate capitalism and state socialism. It values diversity and decentralization." It's funny, you read the page and call it ecological socialism. I read the page and call it ecological capitalism. I feel like it pulls the good from each economic ideal. Again, I don't feel like we differ at all ideological, just in semantics.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:47pm

 **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Except that there is no good that germinates from capitalism. In that, we are opposed.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:47pm

 **Zac Garcia** I'm not quite ready to say that we are opposed in that. Would you be up for more discussion on that front?

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:48pm

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:48pm



**Zac Garcia** Pricing and monetary valuation of goods and services arise from having capital, a product of capitalism. I fully agree with you, that unfettered capitalism can only lead to economic oppression and social injustice. Do you believe there can be such a thing as "cooperative capitalism"?

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:49pm



**Damian Gonzales** Any situation where a worker is working for a wage instead of equity (Owning the means of production) the worker is being oppressed.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:50pm



**Chris Blankenhorn** We reject both capitalism (private control) and state socialism (govt control) in favor of worker and community control. Trading private for govt masters does not significantly change the organization of labor and does not lead to a more democratic pro... See More

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:53pm · Edited



**Damian Gonzales** Socialism is about who owns and manages the workplace.

Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 12:51pm



**Damian Gonzales** We don't want the Government owning it or private individuals. We want the workers to own it. And by extension the communities.

Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 12:52pm



**Chris Blankenhorn** There is no such thing as non-exploitative or non-predatory capitalism. By its basic definition capitalism is a top-down hierarchical system.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:52pm



**Damian Gonzales** Or what he said lol ^

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 12:52pm



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** I do not support any form of capitalism.

Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 12:52pm



**Zac Garcia** Absolutely agree. Would there would remain a somewhat competitive marketplace by which consumers could choose between different versions of the same goods or services.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:53pm



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** I don't care how much you shine it up, but capitalism cannot be good or compassionate or whatever.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:53pm



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Socialism does not mean there is no commerce. It simply means that the worker controls, and benefits wholly from, the means of production.





**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** I would invite you to study the Mondragon Cooperatives a bit.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 12:53pm



**Damian Gonzales** There can be markets in socialism. Worker community cooperative markets.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 12:54pm



**Chris Blankenhorn** I'm confused that you are asking for cooperative capitalism while also calling for competition. Cooperative and competitive tend to be antithetical ideals.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 12:56pm



**Zac Garcia** I hear your point. I think that's the biggest fear of the word "socialism", that it brings the connotation of the State run hierarchy, where the only goods available are those publicly produced without a choice or marketplace. I haven't heard of Mondra... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · May 12 at 12:59pm



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Yep, go check it out. You're describing Mondragon.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:00pm



**Chris Blankenhorn** The correlation to statism is largely due to a combination of misinformation, propaganda, and people using the word socialism to define things that aren't socialism. (I'm of the belief that bureaucratic state systems like the USSR, were just another type of state managed capitalism as opposed to free market capitalism.)

Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:01pm



**Damian Gonzales** What Bernie was preaching was in no way shape or form Socialism. Just Social Capitalism.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:03pm



**Zac Garcia** I suppose I was using terms liberally. I would describe cooperative capitalism as private companies owned by all of its employees, which is to say that their work is their investment, as opposed to a few monetary investors or the State. These companies would then trade their goods and services in the marketplace. Is this different from what you're describing? If so, how so?

Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:03pm



**Damian Gonzales** That's socialism Who owns the means of production?

Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:04pm



**Damian Gonzales** That's the million dollar Identifying question.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:04pm































**Damian Gonzales** Who owns the factory and what it produces?

Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:04pm



**Damian Gonzales** Who makes the decisions of what to build and how?

-  **Damian Gonzales** If the answer is the workers than it's socialism.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:05pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** Markets have little to do with it.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:05pm
-  **Zac Garcia** What's the answer for capitalism?  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:06pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Socialism.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:06pm
-  **Zac Garcia** As in, who owns the means of production, necessarily and by definition, in a capitalist economy?  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:06pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** The rich.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:06pm
-  **Zac Garcia** What if, by virtue of the quality and demand for the product, the workers become the rich?  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:07pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** When individuals are allowed to exchange excess capital for labor. When Individuals are allowed to use excess capital to own the workplace.  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 1:07pm
-  **Zac Garcia** Is it no longer socialism?  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:07pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** They would all become rich.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:07pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** when the workers no longer democratically control the work place. Socialism has degraded into capitalism.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:08pm
-  **Zac Garcia** So it's at the point where monetary investment replaces labor investment. That is the line drawn.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:08pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** No  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:08pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Investment?  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:08pm
-  **Zac Garcia** As in, when someone is no longer working within the company but is still able to profit from its success by virtue of a monetary investment.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:09pm
-  **Zac Garcia** Is that the line?

-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** No, it's who gets to determine how profits are used.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:10pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** If it's the workers, socialism. If it's board members, capitalism  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:11pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** Board members don't actually produce anything. They just decide what to produce and how to spend the profits. That should be up to the workers. The people actually making the goods/services.  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 1:12pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** And the communities who use the products.  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 1:12pm · Edited
-  **Chris Blankenhorn** The main issue here is you are trying to grasp socialism through the lens of capitalism. Socialism seeks to break and expose the spectacle, not reform it.  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 1:13pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** Socialism is the antithesis of capitalism. Democracy is not possible under capitalism, socialism is centered around it.  
Like · Reply · 3 · May 12 at 1:14pm
-  **Zac Garcia** I think you're right. Having never experienced socialism, I'm having difficulty really seeing how what you're describing works in a practical setting. I'll definitely check out Mondragon. Thanks for chatting, everyone! I really appreciate all of your insights.  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 1:15pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** Look up Richard Wolff. He's great.  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 1:16pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** Democracy at work on youtube  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 1:16pm
-  **Zac Garcia** Awesome, I definitely will. I'm always ready to learn more. Again, I appreciate everyone's input and patience. I hope you all can consider it at least as practice in educating a capitalist in the truth of socialism. If the Green Party wants to win over the mass millions, theres going to have to be a lot of this kind of open discussion, I think. Thanks again!  
Like · Reply · 4 · May 12 at 1:19pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Solidarity, southern Latinx person!  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 1:21pm
-  **Chris Blankenhorn** Always happy to discuss with people who actually want to engage.  
Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 1:33pm · Edited

Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 1:33pm · Edited



**Linda Templin** According to bookchin, cooperatively owned enterprises are communalism. This gets away from the authoritarian communist and the non-democratic capitalist models.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 14 at 11:18pm



Write a reply...



**Damian Gonzales** Gray was blocked. No useful discourse was going to be had and it was turning ugly.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 11:31am · Edited



**Chris Blankenhorn** In case it hasn't been said, if Damian's statement makes you uncomfortable, that's a good thing. It means that you are critically engaging with his statement and running his perspective through your thinking. This is the first step to making necessary adjustments in your role as an ally and co-conspirator along side front line communities. The discomfort is good and necessary to make the massive and transformational changes that we need to in our society.

Like · Reply · 7 · May 12 at 11:36am



**Sean Michael McMullin**



Like · Reply · 6 · May 12 at 11:42am





**Andrea Merida Cuellar** For the fragile white people on this thread trying to "manage" Damian's commentary, I DARE you to read MLK's words, in their entirety. Don't synthesize for your own appeasement. READ. Here is a pointed quote directed at you all:

First, I must confess that over the past few years I have been gravely disappointed with the white moderate. I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro's great stumbling block in his stride toward freedom is not the White Citizen's Council or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white moderate, who is more devoted to "order" than to justice; who prefers a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice; who constantly says: "I agree with you in the goal you seek, but I cannot agree with your methods of direct action"; who paternalistically believes he can set the timetable for another man's freedom; who lives by a mythical concept of time and who constantly advises the Negro to wait for a "more convenient season." Shallow understanding from people of good will is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will. Lukewarm acceptance is much more bewildering than outright rejection.

[https://www.africa.upenn.edu/Article/Letter\\_Birmingham.html](https://www.africa.upenn.edu/Article/Letter_Birmingham.html)

### Letter from a Birmingham Jail [King, Jr.]

While confined here in the Birmingham city jail, I came across your recent statement calling my present activities "unwise and untimely." Seldom do I pause to answer criticism of my work and ideas. If I sought to answer all the criticisms that cross my desk, my secretaries would have little time for...

AFRICA.UPENN.EDU

Like · Reply · 9 · May 12 at 12:08pm



**Jason Justice** New white cracker Greens- if you can't be intersectional, GET THE FUCK OUT OF OUR PARTY. We don't have time for your cowardice.

Like · Reply · 6 · May 12 at 12:31pm

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**Christi Catlett Oates** this is bridge burning language not coalition building language and I don't think it is in alignment with the GP values of peace.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 1:34pm

























**Damian Gonzales** If you're here to disrupt the movement, which is what it seems like, then it is you who is not in alignment with the GP values.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 1:37pm · Edited



**Christi Catlett Oates** Damian Gonzales I would say that it is you who is causing the disruption by attacking members, I have done soooooo much to grow the party, why would I waste my time disrupting it? I simply think that attacking potential and current members is a losing strategy - that was my only point.

-  **Damian Gonzales** we have set forth an anti-oppression anti-capitalist platform. If you're not working towards that (You're not) You're not working towards Green goals and values.  
Like · Reply ·  3 · May 12 at 1:41pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** It doesn't matter how many people we get if they're not working for green values.  
Like · Reply ·  1 · May 12 at 1:42pm · Edited
-  **Christi Catlett Oates** I'm not sure how you know what I am working for or not working for. I know the one of the four pillars is peace and here I am working for that by trying to be respectful in my communication.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:45pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** You're still trying to silence people's expression here.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:50pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** And as Damian's state party co-chair, I can attest he's doing waaaaay more to grow this party than you think.  
Like · Reply ·  2 · May 12 at 1:51pm
-  **Christi Catlett Oates** well yeah, if the expression is FU cracker! lol, geez. I know Damien is working super hard and I have supported his efforts and appreciate him for doing this. I'm just surprised to find GP members okay with telling people to F off and throwing racial slurs.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:52pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** You mean a fellow white person? lol  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:52pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** We're not here to guard your tender feelings, I'm sorry. You are being resistant to anything we're saying about how we should express, or the priorities you've prescribed. You are being offensive in that rigidity, and now you want us to protect you from being called a cracker or whatever? Pfff.  
Like · Reply ·  3 · May 12 at 1:53pm
-  **Christi Catlett Oates** I see, it's okay to throw racial slurs if people are conforming to your expectation...hmmmm, let's let that sink in a minute  
Like · Reply ·  1 · May 12 at 1:54pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** No. Expect resistance to your disrespect for our boundaries.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:55pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** You came here throwing stones at something we view as foundational.  
Like · Reply ·  2 · May 13 at 11:16pm · Edited
-  **Christi Catlett Oates** ok, white people suck and aren't welcome in the GP unless they shut up, listen and stand in the background - good luck with that.

-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** No, really, it's just your posture here that sucks.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:57pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** If that's what you want to get from this post whatever.  
Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 1:57pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Petulant bullshit. Go stamp your feet somewhere else.  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 1:58pm
-  **Chris Blankenhorn** Who uses a racial slur?  
Like · Reply · May 12 at 3:29pm
-  **Chris Blankenhorn** Are we actually calling cracker a racial slur?  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 3:30pm
-  **Chris Blankenhorn** JFC white people.  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 3:30pm
-  **Damian Gonzales** privilege is a slur too don't ya know s/  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 3:31pm
-  **Chris Blankenhorn** Lol. Then let me slur myself. Im privileged as shit. White, male, cis, hetero, college educated, home owner, come from a middle class Christian background, fully employed, able bodied, im sure I'm missing some but you get the point.  
Yet, none of tha... See More  
Like · Reply · 4 · May 12 at 3:42pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** #MemberOfGPUSCochairBlankenhornFanClub  
Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 6:07pm
-  **L.J. Harker** Not even a Green and I love this guy. Well said, Chris. Well said, indeed.  
Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 8:43pm
-  **Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** You gotta roll with these homies, LJ.  
Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 9:00pm
-  **L.J. Harker** IKR? Have to up my comrade game.+  
Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 9:04pm
-  **Chris Blankenhorn** We've been told in this thread that our position is bad for recruitment. But it seems good for bringing in the type of comrades we need, like LJ. I'm not sectarian or partisan, a member of SPUSA as well as a green, and a comrade is a comrade. Green or not, my place is alongside the people fighting the fight. Living the struggle. Luckily we have honeypots like this the flag who's who. 😊 Very humbled by the love.  
Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 9:08pm



Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 9:08pm



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** So after reading this exchange I'm actually laughing out loud.

As a black male in America the term cracker is far more offensive to me than to a white American. Especially because it comes from the sound of a whip cracking on a slaves back.

Cracker is used to describe the oppressors which right now is the establishment and the system designed to give the privileged an advantage. I doubt a cracker( white male) shouting cracker is going to scare the serious away. I personally found a white man calling out crackers hilarious.

Perhaps if we focus on the point of intersectionalism, the conversation would not have gone so bad. Meaning be bold in pointing out the oppression and all of its ugliness in order to confront it.

I am glad you said we do not have time for cowardice because the battle is just begining. Power doesn't relinquish power freely and without struggle.

Intersectionalism means we all have a voice and duty to one another to stand up with one another against all forms of oppression.

In my opinion, we need to draw upon our diversity in order to become stronger. And none of us have all of the answers but together we can come pretty close.

Who here is working towards a capitalist platform btw?

Like · Reply · 2 · May 13 at 2:05am



**Damian Gonzales** I'm fighting against capitalism.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:07am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** I feel that capitalism is the root cause of much of our suffering. Wars are being fought right now because of capitalism. I served in two bs wars over oil and opium.

Right now the establishment loves capitalism. I'm fighting to wrestle power away from the establishment. Because none of this will mean

anything while the power rests in the establishment's hands. We will eat whatever they damn well want us to until we take away their power.

Like · Reply · 2 · May 13 at 2:27am · Edited



**Damian Gonzales** Right. Which is why I'm teaming up with other leftists fighting the same battle. Not liberals who support reformism. Revolution. Not reform. Allowing people to have pride in themselves, not being colorblind. etc etc.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 13 at 2:30am



Like · Reply · 1 · May 13 at 2:30am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** Why pick and choose who aids you in your revolution? I'm far more concerned about affective results. I want progress and real change. Call it revolution, call it reform. What I don't want is for my son's and daughter to fight in another rich mans war. I'm willing to do what it takes to prevent that.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 13 at 2:35am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** We are all in this revolution for a reason. Who are we to tell anyone their reason is not just? How is that Intersectionalism?

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:38am



**Damian Gonzales** If we follow them down their path your sons and daughters will be fighting in more wars. Their path doesn't solve any problems. Only offers bandaid solutions. And when we offer real solutions they fight us.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:42am · Edited



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** People who are not intersectional are counterrevolutionary.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 13 at 2:42am



**Damian Gonzales** We spend more energy fighting them then we do advancing our goals or doing out-reach.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 13 at 2:43am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** No one said follow them. I'm about using what benefits the movement and forget the rest. If they fight us on real solutions, fight back. But first, be sure your solution has proof. To them their solution is real. Without discussion and putting words into practice, how do we know our solution is the right one? Once again, I rather rely on diversity of thought than to presume we have all of the answers.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 13 at 2:45am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** Is that energy wasted? Are your goals fool proof? Is open honest discussing fighting? Is there even a discussion?

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:47am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** I also do not see how these discussions prevent outreach. Either reach out or don't.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:48am



**Damian Gonzales** Intersectionality is foundational to our movement. We're not fighting to end one form of oppression, but all forms. Not agreeing with that is not agreeing with our movement.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 13 at 2:48am



**Damian Gonzales** It's attempting to uphold systems of oppression.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:50am



**Damian Gonzales** It's attempting to uphold systems of oppression.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:50am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** Not all even understand what that all means. Perhaps instead of fighting, why not educate? Why can't that be part of the outreach?

Like · Reply · 2 · May 13 at 2:50am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** Aren't those willing to come to you easier to reach?

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:50am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** Thanks for your honest and open discussion Damian Gonzales. My phone is dying. I really want to know more of your point of view. Like I said. I want affective change. Labels mean nothing to that end.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 13 at 2:52am



**Damian Gonzales** We did attempt. They refused to even consider our position. You can re-read this entire thread. All they heard is that "we hate white people". When all that was said is that we need to allow room at the table for non white, non het, non cis voices. And they fought against that.

Like · Reply · 2 · May 13 at 2:53am · Edited



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** I agree with you. What I did not see locally is any of those actually trying to take a seat. If any one of those groups were turned away from the table, I'm not aware of it happening.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:55am



**Damian Gonzales** "I think all this talk about race and class is divisive and distracts us from uniting on the real issues"

Like · Reply · 1 · May 13 at 2:57am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** I'm none white and Preston was a Co-Chairman. Another at the seat is a Mexican American. No one person had the power to kick anyone from the table. Walking away is a personal choice.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:57am



**Damian Gonzales** I beg to differ. I think that statement inherently turns us away.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:57am



**Damian Gonzales** That attitude. That only issues that affect white cishet people are real issues.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:58am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** I agree, the quoted statement is not intersectionalism. Maybe that is due to lack of understanding. I also agree that we should strive to confront it.

I'm not sure which attitude you are referring to.



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** Respect For Diversity

We believe it is important to value cultural, ethnic, racial, sexual, religious and spiritual diversity, and to promote the development of respectful relationships across the human spectrum. We believe that the many diverse elements of society should be reflected in our organizations and decision-making bodies, and we support the leadership of people who have been traditionally closed out of leadership roles. We encourage respect for all life forms, and increased attention to the preservation of biodiversity.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 13 at 5:05am



**Christi Catlett Oates** Quinn Webb - at your request

Like · Reply · May 13 at 6:16am



**Chris Blankenhorn** So the statement that marginalized individuals weren't turned away, but weren't present should be a giant red flag for your local.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:41pm



**Qadija Tatum-Aamir** This the way I would explain it to my children... If you want to OVERSTAND, BE QUIET and LISTEN... A man can not tell a woman, how to be a woman...One cannot tell a gardener, how to grow her garden, if they never gardened before. An oppressor cannot tell the ones who are oppressed, they shouldn't feel the way they do and not revolt. There are some things, you may never experience, so never know what it is like...but should be conscious and humble enough to know this and act accordingly... ButterflyHawk

Like · Reply · 3 · May 14 at 2:20pm



Write a reply...



**Christi Catlett Oates** Justin Flachbarth LeRoy A Bartell Jr

Like · Reply · May 12 at 4:03pm



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Calling in more backup, eh?

Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 6:06pm



**Christi Catlett Oates** Al Herman per request

Like · Reply · May 13 at 9:51am



Write a reply...







Write a reply...



**Anthony Mandel** Not to scare anyone, but if this guy is right, the 99% are going to be equal real soon. No one is going to care about your origins or skin color. Only survival.

Part 1&2 economy will collapse

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=MJerGOY5nyA>

[https://m.youtube.com/#/watch?v=CiaUyU\\_bypU](https://m.youtube.com/#/watch?v=CiaUyU_bypU)



**Trump Confirms, The Economy Will Be Brought Down & It Will...**

YOUTUBE.COM

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 6:04pm



**Chris Blankenhorn** What does this strawman fear mongering contribute? Just another attempt to tell oppressed communities not to worry about it because we're all fucked anyway?

Like · Reply · 3 · May 12 at 6:22pm



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** Yeah. We don't actually give a damn until we're poor too. Good. Enough liberal whispering. Let me go find some rednecks to collab with it.

Like · Reply · May 12 at 8:53pm



Write a reply...



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** If you want the discussion on the table, bring it to the table. Preston Thacker, you had ample time to bring issues to the table but brought none. The most significant issue you did bring to the table you then walked away from before there was a discussion.

We all have a right to be heard. Speak up.

Now Damian Gonzales, as a black cis/male who spent my last 26 years in the South, I might have an idea about where I stand in this hierarchy. My question is, how do you eliminate hierarchy in our society? And how do I assist? I can not begin to presume to have the answer for oppression.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 6:35pm

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 6:35pm



**Andrea Mérida Cuéllar** You want to eliminate oppression? Let's end capitalism. Let's all be equal partners in the production of wealth.

Like · Reply · 3 · May 12 at 9:01pm



**Damian Gonzales** I can see why Preston wouldn't feel comfortable continuing to work with Greens in Savannah.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 12 at 9:02pm



**Damian Gonzales** He is who we should be building connections with. Not turning him away. He understands what we're attempting to build here more than most.

Like · Reply · 2 · May 12 at 9:03pm · Edited



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** Damian Gonzales, in what way do you see my post as turning him away?

On the point of turning people away, this attitude of I have all of the answers and those that do not see my point of view are inferior is a major turn off. If you want to make change you have to be willing to listen as much as you speak. You must also speak when people are willing to listen.

I have encouraged time and again that he speak. He was a Co-Chairman. The fate of the organization was in his hands as much as anyone else in the organization.

Work with the Greens? As one of the founders, he was the Greens so please do not presume to lecture on the purity of understanding the revolution.

You do not own the revolution. There will be no revolution without unity of purpose. In my original post I ended with a questions. These questions were asked to increase understanding.

As far as working with the Greens. I'm sure you were not told that we were looking for issues that are important to the community and that Preston was trusted to help us find organisations we could assist in making change. That's my beef.

No one turned him away. Things got challenging and he chose to walk away. Let's hope we all have the courage to stay the course when we become a real threat to the establishment. Right now the revolution is joke when everyone continues with this purist attitude.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 1:34am



**Damian Gonzales** I'm sorry, It did seem that I was insinuating that YOU were driving him away. I meant the argument in this thread against intersectionality. Not you specifically. There seem to be a large group of Greens in his local that are trying to resist intersectionality and our anti-oppression fight.

Like · Reply · 🍌 2 · May 13 at 2:01am



**Damian Gonzales** While I agree persistence is key to success, It's hard when the people who are supposed to be your ally are fundamentally against you because you make them feel uncommfy. Again, that isn't directed at you.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:05am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** Lol, we are not a large Group of greens. I'm the treasure in said group.the group started in January, and like all groups, we have growing pains as we figure out what the hell we are doing. I for one have constantly and consistantly advocated that we a... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 🍌 1 · May 13 at 2:22am · Edited



Write a reply...



**Preston Thacker** I don't mind Trots but I can't help but feel like this is accurate...



When you haven't split  
the party in 8 minutes

Trotskyism irl

Like · Reply · 🍌🍌 2 · May 12 at 10:12pm



**Damian Gonzales** Just remember WE hold authority on who the youth reps are. Job is always open for you.

Like · Reply · 🍌 1 · May 12 at 10:17pm



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** If I send my 15 year old son to join you, will be good enough?

Like · Reply · 🍌 1 · May 13 at 3:53am



Write a reply...







**Cory Vincent** Exactly.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 2:33am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** Respect For Diversity

We believe it is important to value cultural, ethnic, racial, sexual, religious and spiritual diversity, and to promote the development of respectful relationships across the human spectrum. We believe that the many diverse elements... See More

Like · Reply · 1 · May 13 at 5:05am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** Acknowledgement and respect for your ethnic/racial/gender background should not mean disrespect for others.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 5:09am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** Page 15 of formal consensus by C.T. Butler

Nonviolence expects people to use their power to persuade without deception coercion or malice using truth creativity logic respect and love.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 5:14am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** Key word is respect. Perhaps we should all examine ourselves and our actions. Just a suggestion. There are basic principles we must follow or else we end up just like the establishment.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 5:17am



**Damian Gonzales** I can't control if they misinterpret what I'm saying as disrespect. What I was saying made them feel uncomfortable and they attacked claiming the fight that I am waging is not a real issue and that I was hurting not helping.

Like · Reply · 2 · May 13 at 5:20am



**Damian Gonzales** Saying that someone has privilege is not an insult.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 13 at 5:20am

^ Hide 15 Replies



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** Depends on the person you are calling privilege. I am not offended being called a male. I know some, that society would call male, that would take offense being called male.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 5:23am



**Damian Gonzales** Privilege isn't binary. There aren't privileged people and non-privileged people, it's a spectrum. Being a Male, in USA makes us incredibly privileged. But there are also other factors of our lives that make us more oppressed also. Privilege is shameful only if you uphold it. And you can only fight it by acknowledging it.

Like · Reply · 1 · May 13 at 5:27am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** Explanation was respectful and educational.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 5:50am



Like · Reply · May 13 at 5:50am



**Damian Gonzales** I think to think of it like an STI. There should be no shame in catching something. Almost everyone at some point does. But it is a disease, it needs to be treated. You don't treat an infection by ignoring it, even if it's uncomfortable to deal with. With these diseases though, they're systemic. You can't absolve your privilege or oppression, the system continues to reinforce it. Until you see the ways in which you are privileged and the ways in which you are oppressed and the systems that uphold that, you're fighting in the dark.

Like · Reply · 🍌🍌 2 · May 13 at 6:21am · Edited



**Linda Templin** We need privilege condoms and regular check ups until the disease is eliminated.

Like · Reply · 🍌 1 · May 13 at 9:56am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** How do you know if someone doesn't see their privilege or how they are oppressed?

Let me guess, the hunny pot set up to see if one's feelings get hurt when trigger words are used?

Like · Reply · May 13 at 10:07am



**Damian Gonzales** This wasn't meant to be a honey pot. Especially not for active greens. Just have open discourse about this subject and when someone is wrong explain why.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 10:11am



**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** "Luckily we have honeypots like this the flag who's who. 😊 Very humbled by the love."

Like · Reply · May 13 at 12:19pm



**Damian Gonzales** Yeah I didn't write that.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 9:29pm



**Damian Gonzales** I don't understand what your fight with me is.

Like · Reply · May 13 at 9:30pm





**LeRoy A Bartell Jr** There is a difference between a fight and open discussion. I thought we were having the latter.


Like · Reply · May 14 at 12:28am







Like · Reply · May 14 at 12:20am




 **Damian Gonzales** An attempt to be educational was made and shot down. (Not referring to you just this thread in general, read the whole thing. Quite educational.) that attempt was shot down and derided as divisive and not a real issue. Which if you understand what I was saying, is SUPER FUCKING OFFENSIVE. So things got heated because of that. End of discussion. If you want to learn more about intersectionality I can discuss that with you.  
Like · Reply · May 14 at 12:33am


 **LeRoy A Bartell Jr** I'm going to assume you weren't trying to be condescending.  
Like · Reply · May 14 at 12:43am



 **Damian Gonzales** Can you show me an example?  
Like · Reply · May 14 at 12:45am


 **LeRoy A Bartell Jr** In the context, I think when you said 'if you understand what I was saying' should be taken as 'you know what I mean?' so not so much. So I assumed right.  
Like · Reply · May 14 at 1:12am



 Write a reply...   


 **Damian Gonzales** Asking you to use your privilege to empower others is not an insult.  
Like · Reply ·   2 · May 13 at 5:21am





 **LeRoy A Bartell Jr** I'm just asking we all self exam. Not you directly  
Like · Reply · May 13 at 5:21am

 **Megan Marie Witt** Thank you Damian. I agree. 🐢  
Like · Reply ·  1 · May 13 at 6:18am

 **Megan Marie Witt** What is Pan Cis? (sorry I'm old and not very knowledge on all the terms.) is that regarding sexuality?  
Like · Reply · May 13 at 6:21am

 **Damian Gonzales** The best policy is to just ask, so thank you. Pan-sexual is basically Bi but stresses that I'm also attracted to Non-binary people, transgendered, etc and Cisgender gender is when you identify as the gender you were assigned at birth.  
Like · Reply ·  1 · May 13 at 6:24am

 **Megan Marie Witt** Thank you.  
Like · Reply · May 13 at 11:57am

 Write a reply...   



Write a reply...



**Damian Gonzales** Hugh Esco

Like · Reply · May 13 at 10:53pm



**Damian Gonzales** This is the Post.

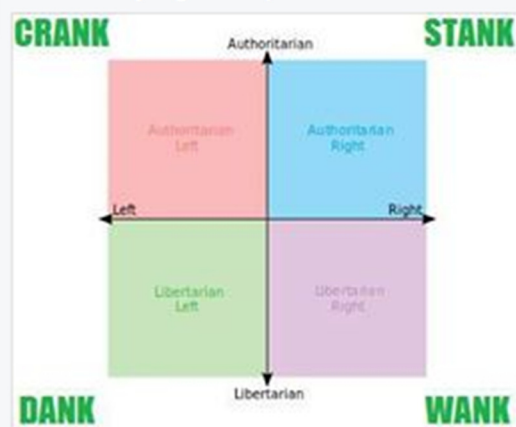
Like · Reply · May 13 at 10:53pm



Write a reply...



**Zac Moore** jus gonnah put this here.



Like · Reply · 🍌🍌 2 · 23 hrs



**Damian Gonzales** Danky dank.

Like · Reply · 23 hrs



**Zac Moore** issues that unite us and we can organize to win on > identity politics that divide us. let's use a softer touch, too. Bring your issues into winnable, specific campaigns for government, but don't make the campaign your identity.

Like · Reply · 🍌 1 · 23 hrs



**Zac Moore** how bout we get more discussion on how to move this forward. Georgia is a lead voice on the issue. <http://gp.org/cgi-bin/vote/propdetail?pid=510>

### Green Party of the United States - National Committee Voting - Proposal Details

GP.ORG

Like · Reply · 🍌 1 · 23 hrs

Like · Reply · 1 · 23 hrs



**Damian Gonzales** Identity politics are gross. That's not what this is. It's called intersectionality and we won't make any gains without it.

Like · Reply · 23 hrs



**Damian Gonzales** It's about empowering all oppressed peoples.

Like · Reply · 23 hrs



**Damian Gonzales** I'm not falling into a class reductionist trap. There are issues communities of Color face outside of environmental and electoral. With out these communities on our side we'll never get anything done. Which the platform clearly supports.

Like · Reply · 1 · 23 hrs · Edited



**Zac Moore** economic justice and environmental justice are all over the platform, you are correct.

Like · Reply · 1 · 23 hrs



**Kevin Hatfield** Reason enough to support GP:



Like · Reply · 2 · 22 hrs




Write a reply...




**Christi Catlett Oates** I just want to take a moment to personally apologize to anyone I offended on this thread. You certainly have the right to prioritize the issues in the way that you want and to be angry at whoever you want and to use whatever kind of language you want. I apologize if my words were unclear in that regard.

Like · Reply · 1 · 11 hrs


Like · Reply · 1 · 11 hrs

 **Damian Gonzales** While I honestly appreciate your apology, I'm really more concerned about the optics of the situation. While I've gained many friends defending my point against you (people appreciate when you stand up for them), I've also began to develop a reputation as racist against whites(which isn't a thing) based on accusations in your open letter. And now I have green party members in Georgia calling me telling me they're thinking about leaving, in part because of your actions (in part against me, in part against Bruce and everything he's worked towards). So that's where I'm at.





Like · Reply · 1 · 9 hrs


 **Damian Gonzales** After seeing that you're still defending your actions, I am forced to not accept your apology, as I don't think it was genuine.

Like · Reply · 1 · 7 hrs

 **Damian Gonzales** Further more, your apology did not cover how you came onto my page and began a racist tirade.


Like · Reply · 1 · 7 hrs · Edited

 Write a reply...   


 **Christi Catlett Oates** so I have a question for you all - is it important to adhere to our party pillar value of 'peace' even when we are offended and outraged? if so, how do we do that?

Like · Reply · 11 hrs


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 **Zac Garcia** I think here it's most important to remember that different people will have different interpretations of peace. The best thing any of us, whom I believe all are adhering to their own interpretation of the Green pillar of peace, can do is model our own interpretation of peace. Others might have a different interpretation to model and it's not my place to tell them whether it is or isn't peace. I appreciate that you are interested in promoting peace and humbly request you continue to model it as you see it and allow others to do the same without judgement.

Like · Reply · 1 · 10 hrs

 **Christi Catlett Oates** great point Zac, thank you for your insight 😊

Like · Reply · 9 hrs

 **Damian Gonzales** We don't view self-defense as anti-peace. The ideas behind being a non-violence peace Party is rooted in our understanding that wars are destructive. And that our ideal society will not develop by force. It has nothing to do with being a pacifist and allowing people to shit on you.





**Damian Gonzales** And peace isn't one of the four pillars. Not that it's not important. Just for clarification. One of the key values is non-violence. But it explicitly talks about systemic violence.

Like · Reply · 9 hrs



**Damian Gonzales** I would also argue that a negative peace is more destructive and violent to marginalized folx than even what we have now.

Like · Reply · 1 · 9 hrs



**Zac Garcia** I hear you on negative peace. It's an important line to draw, and one crucial to positive and effective change on systemic oppression. And just for a clarification note, am I misinterpreting the four pillars? Peace, Ecology, Social Justice, and Democracy?



Like · Reply · 5 hrs



**Damian Gonzales** <http://www.gp.org/platform>



Like · Reply · 5 hrs



**Damian Gonzales** Democracy, Social Justice, Ecological Sustainability and Economic Justice and Sustainability.

Like · Reply · 1 · 5 hrs



**Damian Gonzales** I think we changed it at some point for this very reason.

Like · Reply · 5 hrs



**Damian Gonzales** I read that platform religiously.

Like · Reply · 5 hrs




**Damian Gonzales** It gives me hope.

Like · Reply · 5 hrs




**Zac Garcia** What is the infographic that I pulled from? I'm not arguing with you, true confusion on my end.


Like · Reply · 5 hrs

 **Damian Gonzales** I think that's what the four pillars were at some point in the past.


Like · Reply · 5 hrs · Edited

 **Damian Gonzales** Not sure why it hasn't been updated





Like · Reply · 5 hrs


 **Zac Garcia** Gotcha, time for a homepage update? Just for message consistency and clarity. 😊

Like · Reply · 1 · 5 hrs


 **Damian Gonzales** I think we may have changed this just last year tbh

Like · Reply · 1 · 5 hrs


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 **Jim Petersen** I'm so ignorant I have to look all this stuff up. But thanks for the discourse. The very process of working within the political party structure would seem to indicate we're pushing reform over "revolution" though, no? So in order to succeed we need more of this dialog not less. And more proselytizing in order to gain enough numbers to succeed.





Like · Reply · 3 · 6 hrs


 **Damian Gonzales** Not really. Democracy allows for us to install any type of government or economy that the majority can agree on. Our path through electoral politics may be paved with reforms but make no mistake that some of those "reforms" will radically transform the Country. Away from private ownership, away from government ownership, away from the wage system, away from war profiteering.

Like · Reply · 2 · 6 hrs · Edited

 **Jim Petersen** Getting to majority though is the delicate part

Like · Reply · 6 hrs

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 **Zac Garcia** These conversations have revealed a systemic division in the Green Party that I feel is necessary to bring into the light. Both sides of this seeming conflict have drawn support, and that is a great thing for the Green Party. I believe it is a strength of the party platform that we have these conflicts of interpretation. It speaks to the universal appeal of the platform, and that universality is desirable if we want to elect government leaders from our party to make the radical changes we all desire.

The Green Party has drawn people from every race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, LGBTQ spectrum, formal education level, age, and nationality. We have a party platform that supercedes all of these boundaries. It seems inevitable that we have these conflicts. If we put 100 people in a room from each of these groups and told them to do something as simple as to fix a chair, we'd have at least 30 different ways to fix it. And we, as a party, are charging ourselves with fixing our communities, our states, our country, and our world. With so much askew and so much at stake, how can we expect not to have these conflicts of priority in so complex a task?

Each group of people is absolutely necessary to create a party that empowers the people as a whole, but that does not mean each of us needs to agree on a single issue which every group within the party needs to prioritize. There will be some that prioritize positive peace and justice in the face of systemic oppression, global warfare, and economic slavery. There will be some that prioritize the switch to renewable resources and concern for the climate and ecology. There will be some who prioritize election integrity and demanding true democracy against our trajectory towards authoritarianism. Each of these speaks to the pillars of the Green Party and each is vitally important to its success, and it is in their intersections that we will find our representatives.

Each person in the Green Party is working toward creating a future that actualizes these principles, and each person will have a different strategy to do so. It is not my place to stand in the way of anyone who pushes for any of these positive changes we all want to see, or to push my priorities over those of another Green member. I thank [Damian Gonzales](#) for bringing up such an important discussion which has shed light on so many important issues.

As I've said before, I again humbly request that each of us allow one another to have our own interpretation of what Peace, Ecology, Social Justice, and Democracy mean in the context of the Green Party platform. It is written out and explicated very clearly at [gp.org](#) and, as with any great work of philosophy or literature, still leaves room for individual interpretation, and it is in that universality that we have the strength of the majority.

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